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10. இந்திய திபெத் எல்லையில் நாட்டைக்காக்கும் பணியில் உயிர்நீத்த வீரர்களுக்கு நாடெங்கும் ஞாபகச் சின்னம் 37
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Greetings

We offer our readers
our best wishes for the
New Year.

May 1964 be a year of
happiness and prosperity
for all.

EDITORIAL

With this issue, the Journal is entering on its 15th year of publication. Looking back, what an immense satisfaction one gets to see the great stride in progress it has been making all along. With a humble start as what may be regarded as a "Miscellany", the Journal has steadily progressed and to-day we have reasons to be proud of its achievements with our subscribers on the increase, our clientele of businessmen enlarged and, above all, the reading matter improved considerably. Indeed, all this has been rendered possible, thanks to the generous support of our subscribers and contributors and patronage in the form of advertisements from businessmen. While thanking all those who have thus helped us in the past, we renew our appeal for their continued patronage and co-operation.

2. The Passingout Parade, an annual feature of the Police Training College is usually its "Red-letter day". This year, this colourful ceremony was celebrated on 1st November 1963 in the immediate presence of our Home Minister, Sri P. Kakkan, who honoured us by taking the salute at the March Past of the Cadets and gave valuable advice to the young Sub-Inspector Cadets on the eve of their departure to various districts for practical training. We are happy to reproduce in this issue the text of his speech in print, and a few highlights of the celebrations, in pictures.

ADDRESS
OF THE
Hon'ble Sri P. KAKKAN
Home Minister, Government of Madras,

to

Sub Inspector Cadets of State Police Training College, Vellore, on November 1, 1963.

Officers, and Men of the State Police Training College

It has given me great pleasure to come here to this historic fort at Vellore and meet you all in this parade which has just been concluded. At the outset, I would like to express my thanks to the Inspector-General of Police, Madras, and to his Officers who have invited me to participate in this annual function of the College and have thus provided an opportunity for me, to meet and talk to the Cadets before they leave this time-honoured training institution to various centres in the districts of this State.

2. We have just now witnessed a very impressive parade to the accompaniment of the delightful tunes of the State Police Band. I congratulate you, the cadets, on the very smart turn out presented by you on this occasion which, I am sure, has been very much enjoyed by one and all assembled here on this occasion.

3. It has been the tradition of this College, to present the I. G. P's Gold Medal to the "Sub-Inspector Cadet who is adjudged the best all rounder" of the current session and who has distinguished himself in indoor and outdoor work, general character and conduct and capacity for leadership and the I. G. P's second medal to the S. I. Cadet who has established himself as "the best shot" of the course. It has also been customary to present on such occasion the "Lonsdale Sword" to the cadet who has the best command on the parade and who excels others in drill and physical fitness and endurance. These medals and the sword of honour are presented to the best Cadets of the session so as to recognise their merit publicly. Public functions, such as these, give an incentive to other Cadets to emulate the example of the recipient of such distinctions so as to improve their efficiency and qualify themselves for such and similar medals and honours in future.

4. This is an unique occasion in your official career and on this happy occasion, I have great pleasure in congratulating you on the honour so deservingly conferred on you in the presence of this distinguished gathering. This helps building up greater goodwill and better understanding between you and the members of the general public which is so essential for the success of your day-to-day work. It is also, meets, such as these, that enable the public and you to feel that you are part of the society which you

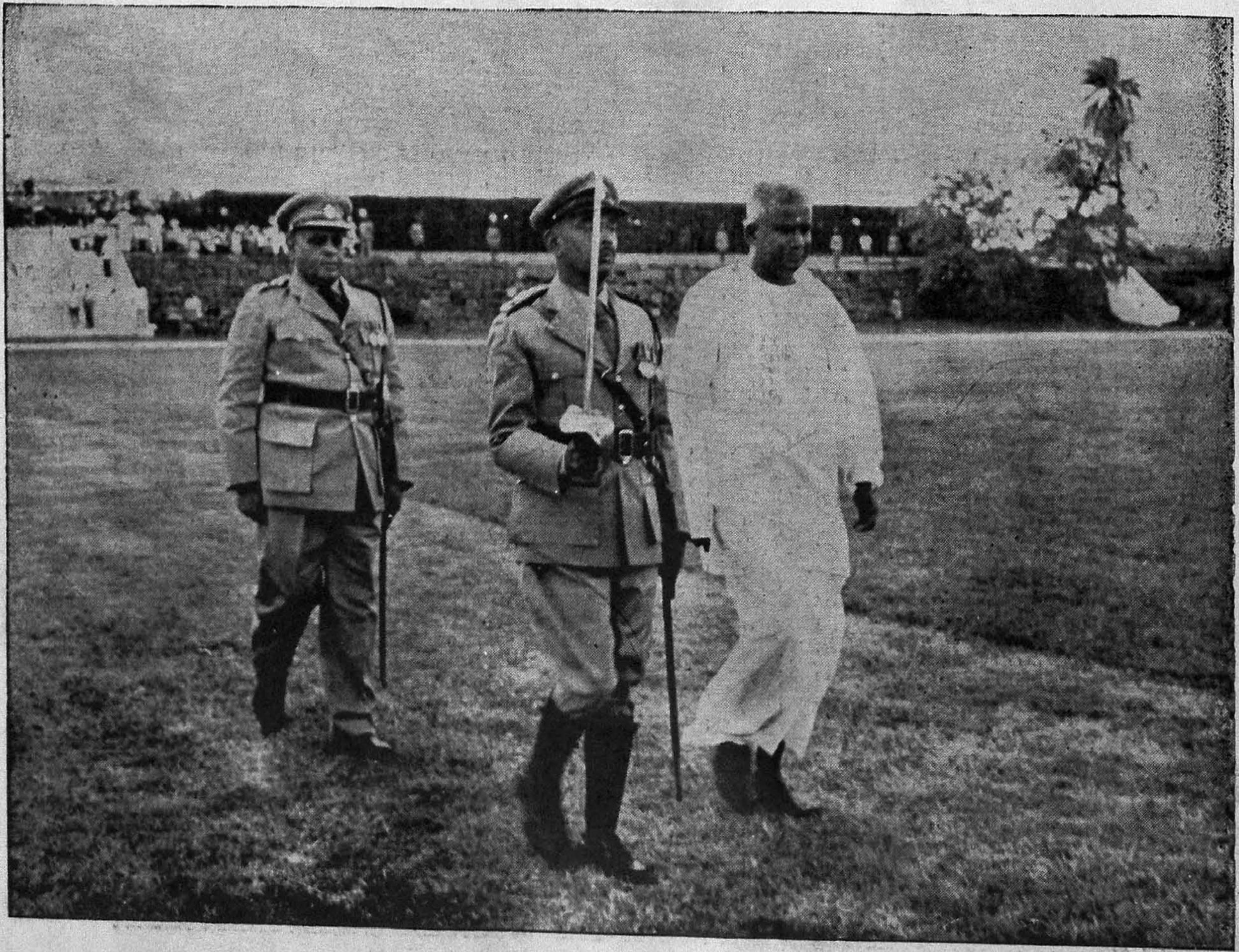
are going to serve and from which you will not only get its appreciation but its confidence as well. I therefore congratulate you all once more and also the officers who have so well trained you.

5. In a few days from now, you will all be leaving this Alma Mater. You will be placed in the midst of new surroundings under different officers in different areas of the State. The training that has been imparted to you during these twelve months, I am sure, will stand you in good stead and will enable you to discharge your duties to the dictates of your own conscience and to the satisfaction of all the law-abiding citizens. You must realise that after your practical training in the districts, you will have to independently shoulder responsibility as S. H. Os. and discharge that responsibility with credit to yourself and to the department to which you have the proud privilege to belong.

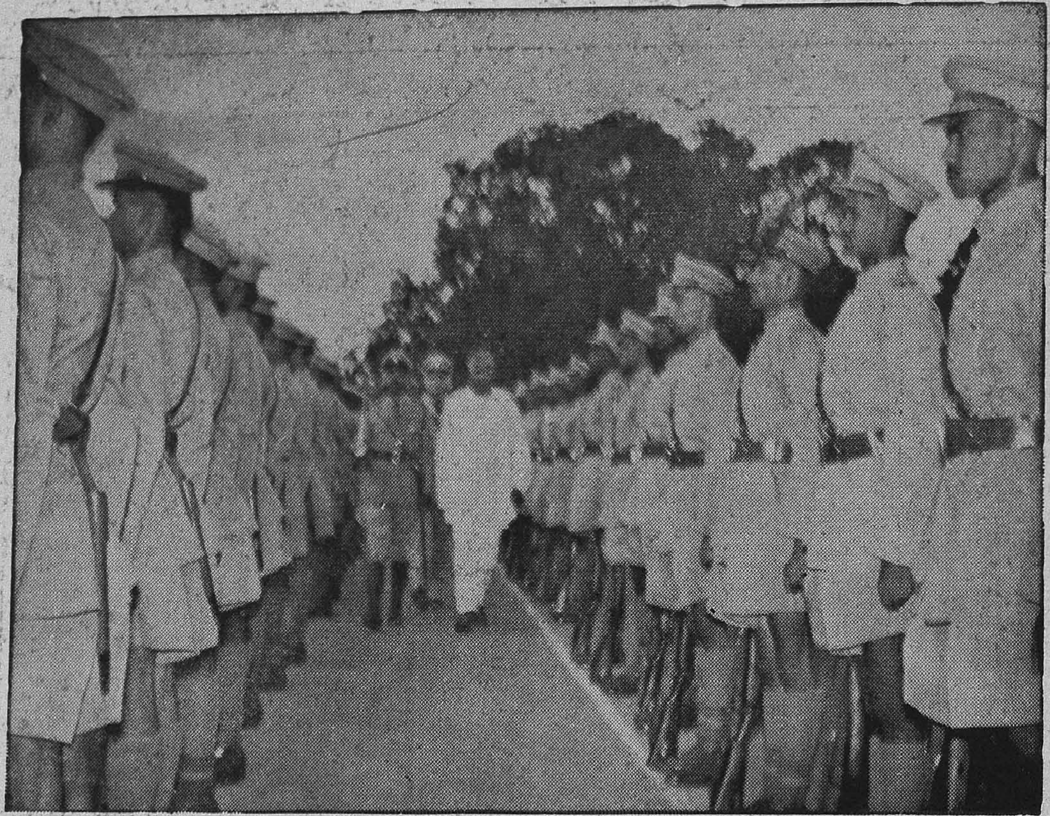
6. You must also realise that the Madras State has been considered one of the best administered States in the whole of India. The Madras State has been able to record a decrease in crime with corresponding increase in the percentage of detection, in recent times. This achievement bears ample testimony to the vigilance of the Police force as a whole. You have to bear this in mind and live up to the high traditions of the Madras Police in your day-to-day work. I therefore appeal to you all for integrity in your official acts and in your private lives as well. I am sure you will strive to achieve this in actual practice. You must set up an example to your fellow officers as models of integrity and efficiency and of co-operation and courtesy with the general public, remembering that you are an Indian first and foremost and that your loyalty to the country must be your first and foremost concern, and that you must in your own way do everything for the national integration of the country. Your attitudes towards the people should be just and impartial. You must conduct yourself in such a way as to gain respect for the law and as a forerunner for your subordinates also, to conduct themselves in a similar fashion. I have no doubt that by your good temper, patience, calmness, tact, consciousness, courteousness, enthusiasm and technical efficiency, you will serve the public well for the honour of the country and for maintaining the high traditions and reputation of the Madras Police, especially in the present national emergency.

7. Before I conclude, let me assure you that the Government are well aware of the difficult and delicate role you are now called upon to play in the democratic set-up of a Welfare State. I am glad to note that the training that has been imparted to you has been specially patterned to suit the special needs of the changing phase of India and of modern society. I wish you all godspeed and best of luck in your official career in the days to come.

8. Ladies and Gentlemen, I appeal to you, the members of this august gathering, on this happy occasion to give your wholehearted support and co-operation to these young officers, to enable them to discharge their new responsibilities without fear or favour and with due respect to the rule of law, remembering that they are part and parcel of yourselves and are out to serve you well. JAI HIND.

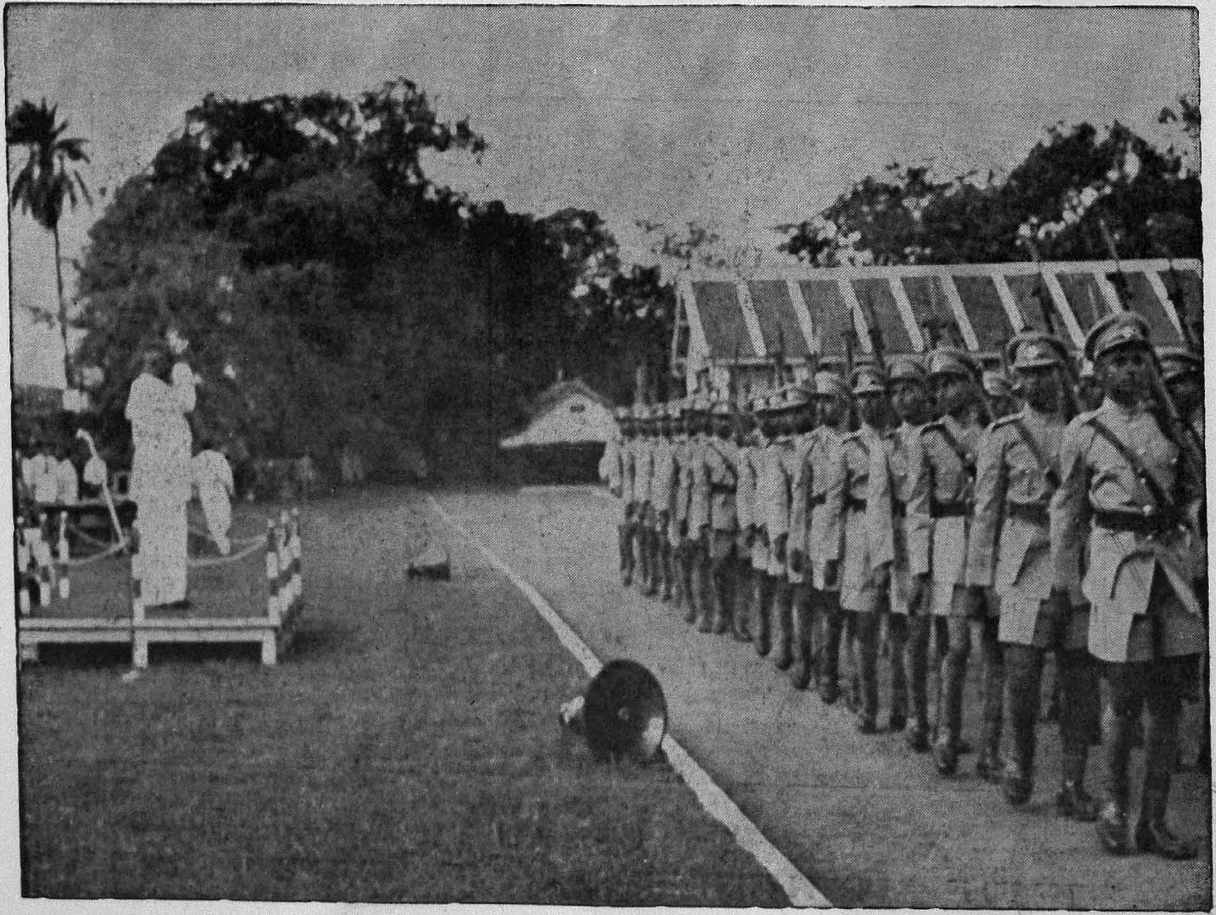


Hon'ble Sri P. Kakkan, Home Minister, Madras State, proceeding to inspect the S. I. cadets at the Passing-Out parade at Vellore on 1—11—63.

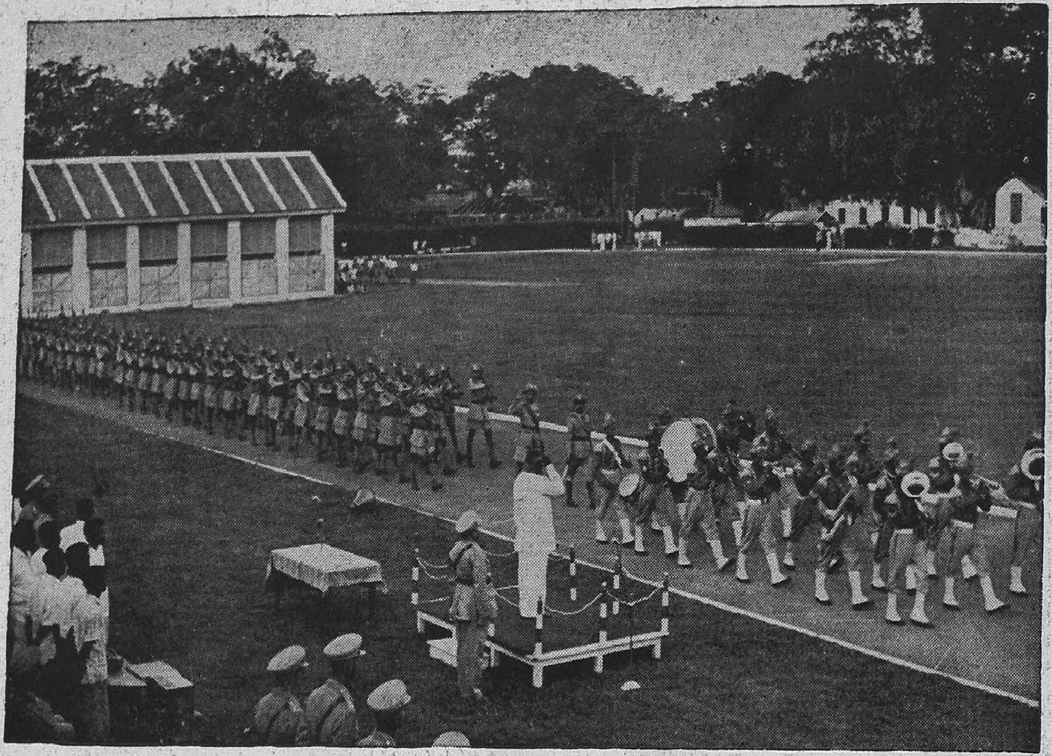


The Hon'ble, the Home Minister, inspecting the cadets at the parade.

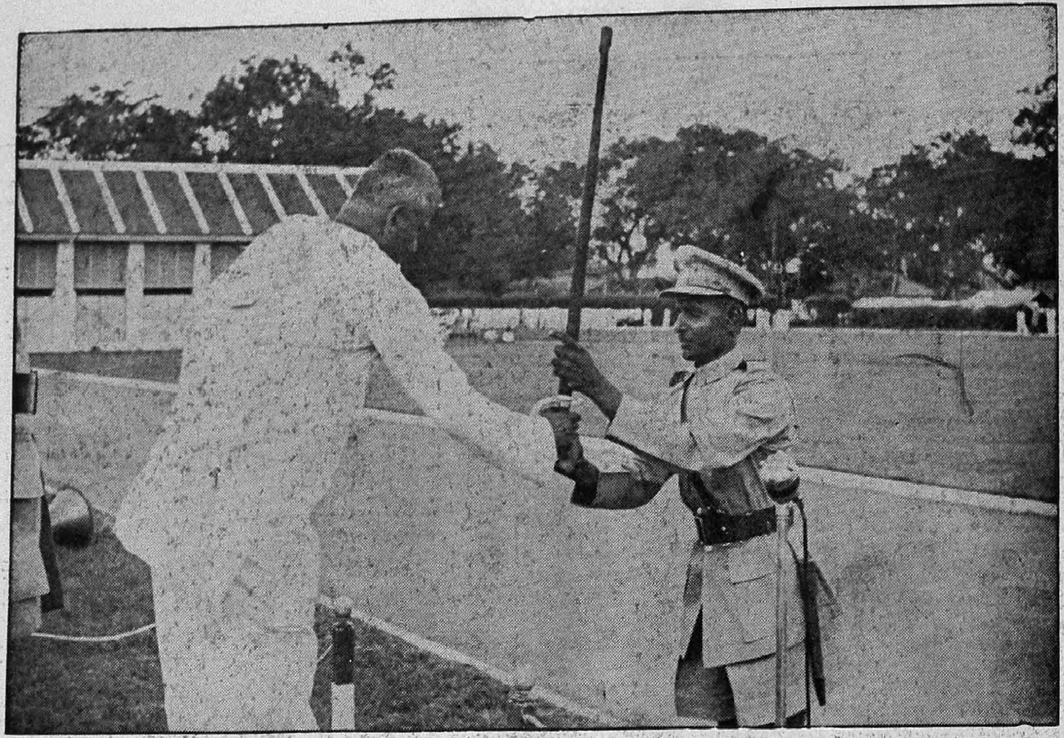
The Hon'ble, the Home Minister, taking the salute at the March Past of the cadets.
(Two Photos)



The Hon'ble, the Home Minister, taking the salute at the March Past of the cadets.
(2nd Photo)

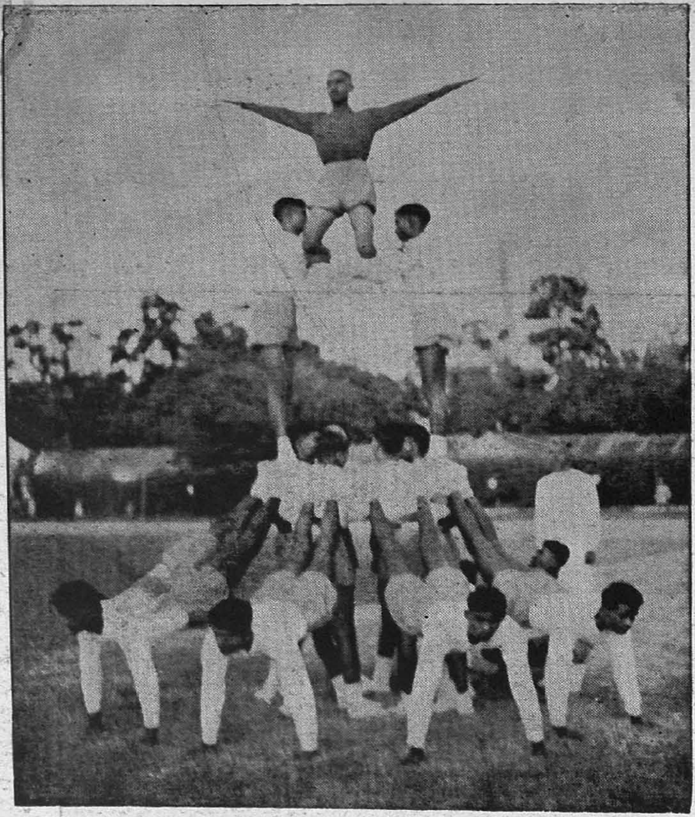


The Hon'ble, the Home Minister, is pinning the I. G. P's Gold Medal to the best All-Rounder, Sub Inspector Cadet Sivasubramaniam.

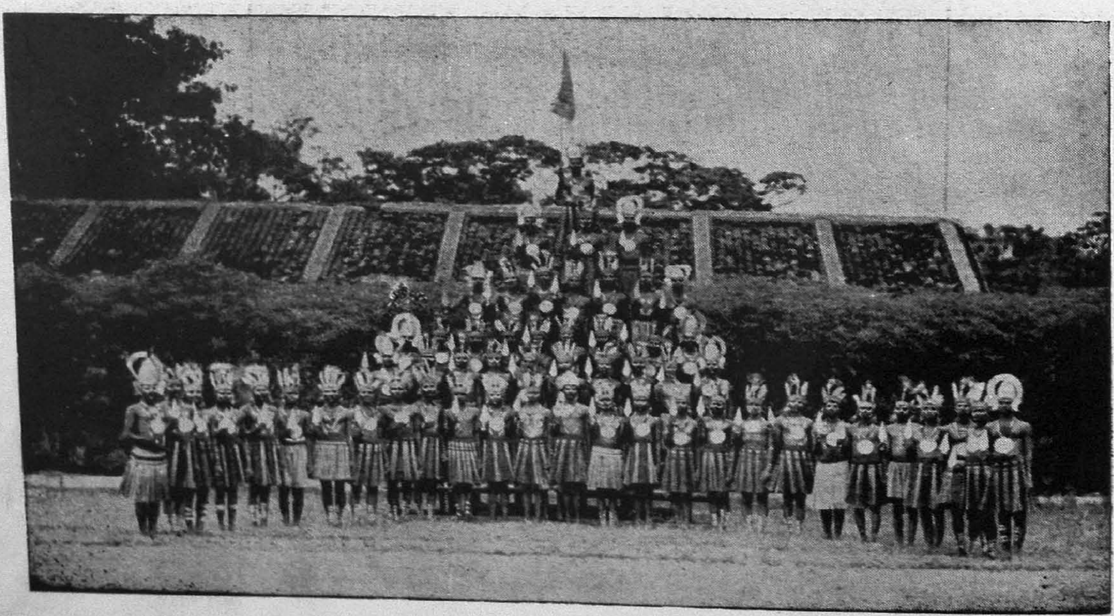


The Hon'ble, the Home Minister, is presenting the LONSDALE'S SWORD to S. I. cadet D. Antonisami, the best in Drill.

The Hon'ble, the Home Minister, addressing the Cadets.

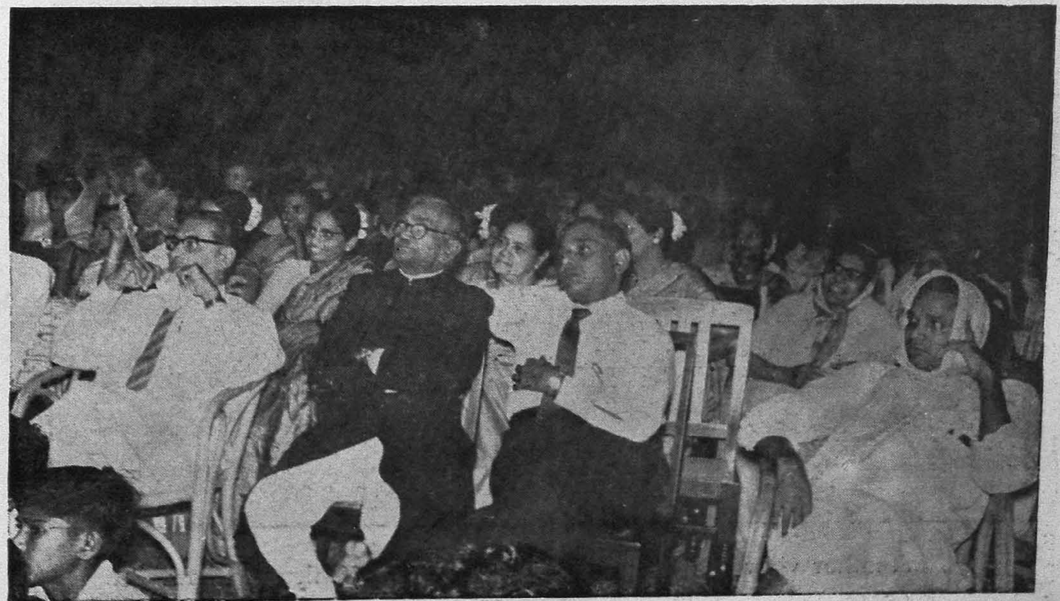


Acrobatics by cadets during the Passing Out parade on 1—11—63.

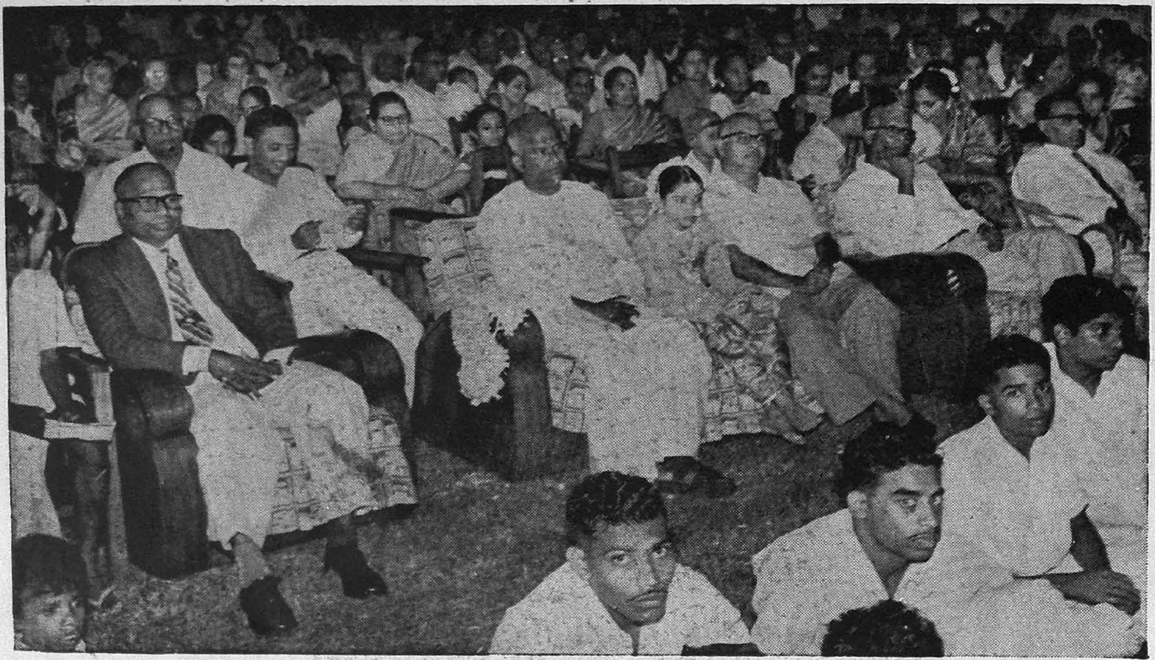


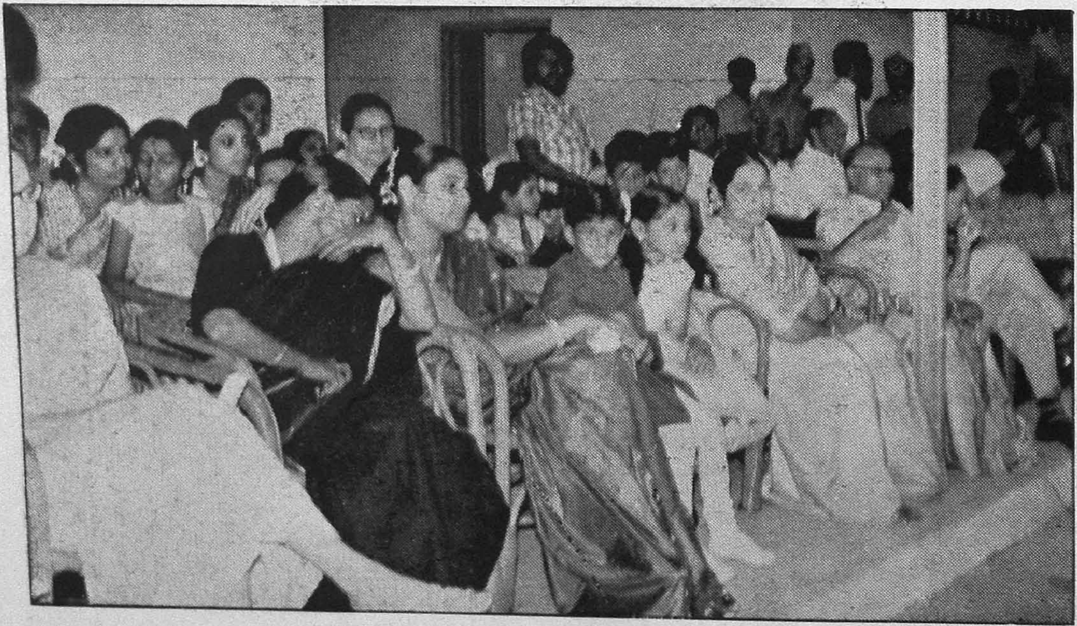
Our trainees in the garb of a jungle tribe.

A general view of the vast audience (gents) at the Cultural Show put up by P. T. C. cadets. The Hon'ble, the Home Minister and D. I. G., Rlys. and Armed Police, Madras, and the other elite of the Vellore Town.
(Three Photos)

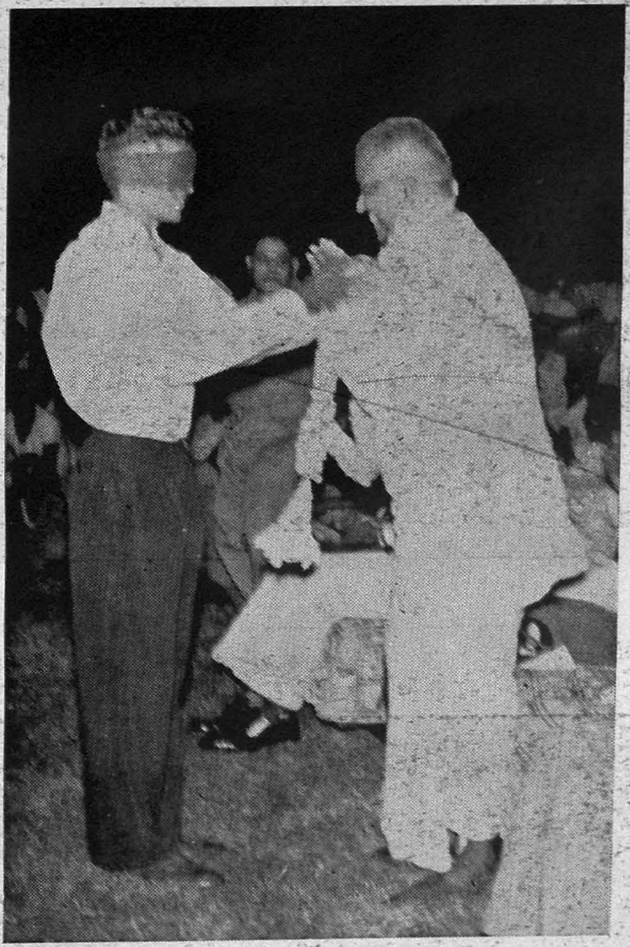


(Audience (gents) - Third Photo.)





Another view of the audience (ladies) at the Cultural Show.



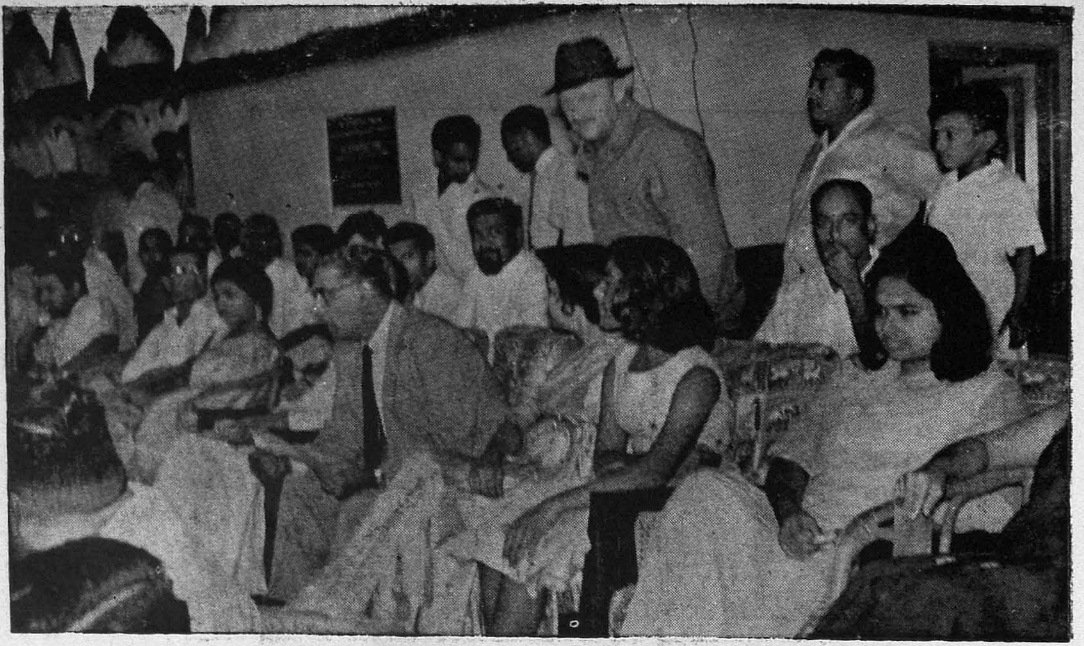
Note the beaming smile on the Hon'ble Minister's face expressing surprise and delight, when a blind-folded S. I. cadet successfully garlanded the Home Minister.
The Cadet worked his way through the maze of audience to directive music.

Bharatha Natya sequences by Baby Shaheen.

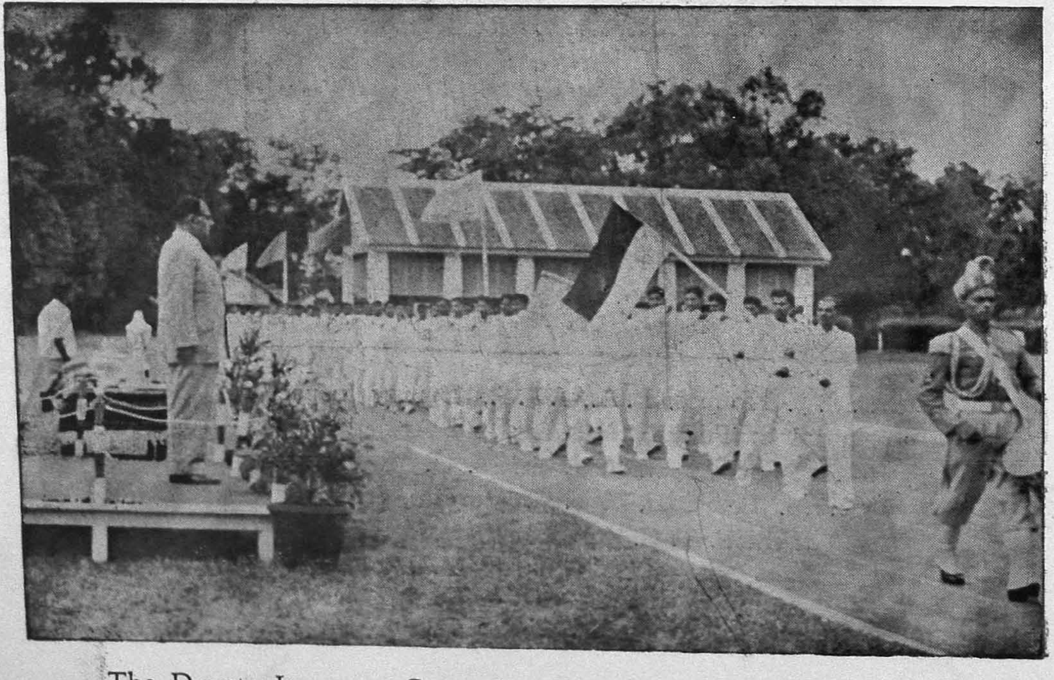
Cadets in Folk Dance and histrionic performances.
(Four Photos)

Cadets in Folk Dance and histrionic performances.

Sri M. J. Holmes, B. A., I. P. S., Deputy Inspector General of Police, Railways and Armed Police, Madras, accompanied by Sri M. U. Mulk, B. A., I. P. S., Principal, P. T. C., Vellore, arriving at the P. T. C. grounds to preside over the sports on 3—11—63.



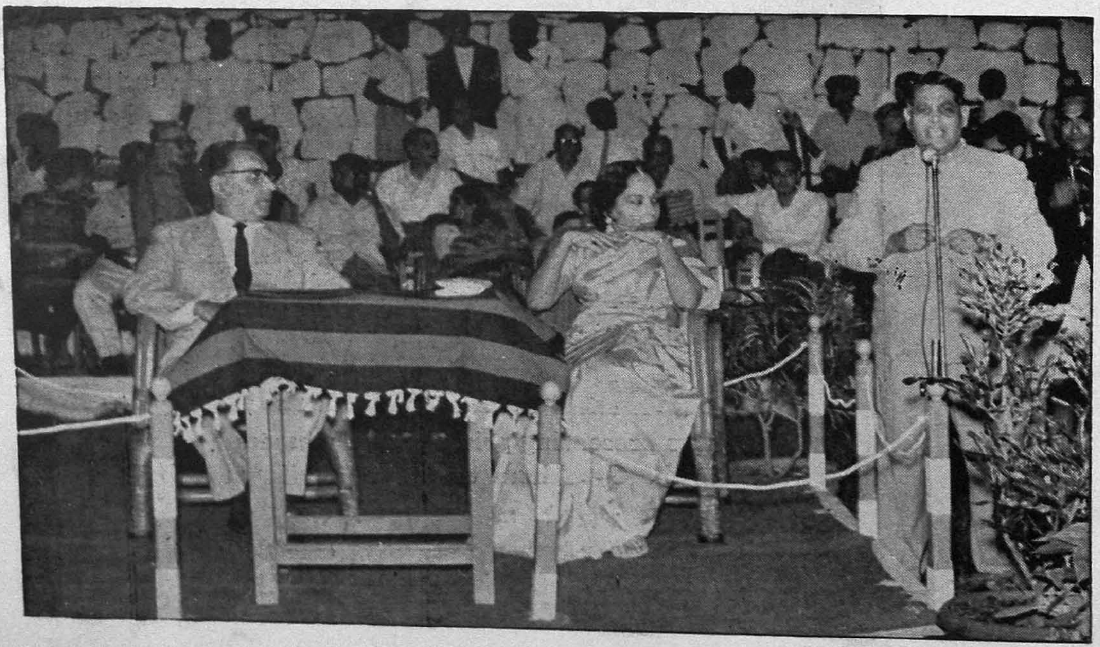
A section of the animated audience witnessing the sports items.



The Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Railways and Armed Police, Madras, taking the salute of the March Past.

Srimathi Holmes presenting prizes to the winners in the Gymkhana event.

Srimathi Holmes presenting the Challenge Cup to the best S. I. cadet Gnanaprakasam, for Law Subjects.



The Principal, P. T. C., Vellore, proposing vote of thanks at the Annual Sports on 3—11—1963.

RAILWAY SECURITY

By

Sri M. SINGARAVELU, B.A., I.P.S.,
(Chief Security Officer, Railway Protection Force, Madras.)

Tiruchi in summer. It was late in the night. The Inspector of Railway Protection Force, was about to retire to bed, after a full day's chores of duty and dinner. Tap! tap! - there was a knock on the door. And the man with a message–another theft report,–perhaps the last for the day– was there. Inter-alia, the report ran as follows: "a consignment of iron materials 'correctly received' at Tiruchi, is stolen". A serious enough matter; and instantly enquiry proceedings got started. Diligent and searching investigations yielded little result. So, the days passed and they remained but dupes of to-morrow. Subsequent to this hectic search, the Inspector was in Madras on a different mission. Shock, surprise and relief awaited him there. At the Beach Railway station, lo and behold! lay the consignment 'reported despatched' and " correctly received at Tiruchi ". Obviously there has been collusion at the sending and receiving ends, not between two outsiders but between Railway employees themselves; motive : to cheat and defraud. But between frustration and fulfilment and fraud, security stood and stands the solid R. P. F. vigil—men of dedication, discipline and daring. These silent soldiers of confidence and character mount a continuing watch on the Nation's property and the nationals' interests; they are responsible for minimising crimes on the Railways and save crores of rupees worth of loss through thefts. Imagine, the Railways daily carry goods worth millions of rupees; they should reach destinations far and near, lest prosperity remains localised and poverty continues generalised. The Railways are nation's " Honest broker ".

57,500 K.Ms. of steel, across and along the nation—constituting its steel-spine, as it were, ribbing out on all directions and reaching the remotest corners of the country is just not the work of overnight or one individual. 110 years ago the first line in India was laid at Thana, near Bombay. Since then Railway development has been steady, though not systematic. Different companies, mostly British incorporations, some owned by the erstwhile District Board, some by the former native States—the organisation was motley and different based on different values making confusion worst confounded. Patently, orderly development and national interests demanded integration of these rail-roads, big and small, significant and other-wise. Consequently, differences in administrations had impact on the functioning of security arrangements and organisations on

the Railway system. The object of this paper is to examine these arrangements and assess the current ones in the light of national conditions.

Railway Security is a complex of many independent functions and functionaries; it is a tangled web of legal, constitutional, functional and practical requirements. 'Police' was a 'provincial' subject and each province had its own system of Police Administration. Each Railway had its own set-up, while some of the native States were outside the Railway Police Administration. This complex and confusing situation led to formal and frequent discussions among parties involved, primarily to resolve the confusion and redefine duties. The State, undoubtedly has overall responsibilities for law, order and security arrangements everywhere, including the Railroads and the Railways as occupiers of premises and as commercial enterprises could not absolve themselves of accountability for the safe deposit, transport and delivery of goods entrusted to them. Such discussions enabled to recognise the following principles as fundamental :

(a) that the State Government is primarily responsible for overall law and order in the State, including Railway properties and for investigation, detection and prevention of crimes and the prosecution of offenders,

(b) that legally railway premises are private properties, even if they are owned by the State and the occupier is responsible for the safety and security of persons and properties, lawfully in their premises;

(c) that the Railways are a unique public enterprise and as such the State will have to assume more direct responsibilities, if necessary, through the instrumentality of an organisation, separately created under law and vested with necessary powers but controlled by the Railways themselves.

That, however, is not the end of the story. At many points of administration, duties are still knotty, overlapping and indefinite. Railway Police under the constitution is a 'State' subject; Criminal Law procedures a 'concurrent' and 'Railways' a 'Union' subject. By implication, Railway security devolves equally on the Union and the State and the former having dual responsibility in the sense (a) directly as administrators of a 'Union' subject and (b) indirectly as the overall guardians of internal security over the whole nation. An analysis of the position shows that the *State Police* will deal with (i) prevention of crimes and enforcement of laws, (ii) passenger safety and protection of property entrusted to them, (iii) protection of railway personnel in the course of discharge of their duties. The *Railways* (R. P. F. and other Departments) shall take care of (i) maintenance of order relating to passengers and platforms where public have free access or admissions regulated (ii) safe custody and protection of Railway properties (iii) protection and safety of parcels and goods entrusted to Railways for transportation. This arrangement has the merit of definite responsibilities and has indeed improved methods and organisation. In this challenge, the R. P. F. have found

enough opportunities to show its mettle and enhance its worth.

Frequently it is asked: why an R. P. F. when there is a Railway Police? The creation of R. P. F. is more pragmatic than legalistic. No doubt Railway Police has the overall charge of travel and passenger safety, but the R. P. F. function is specific in the sense that they assume responsibility for security of Railway property—Railway property including any goods, money or valuable normally belonging to, or charged with or in possession of the Railway administration—and rail movement.

Prior to railroad integration, each railway had its own Watch & Ward Department to protect Railway premises and property in them. It consisted, by and large, of untrained watchmen-type of personnel, uninstructed in the science of security methods and uninformed of the clever ways of the traffikers on the fringe of law and lawful conduct. Not only the methods of Watch & Ward remained unco-ordinated between railways, but even within a single railway system they remained different 'meat' leading to less efficiency, more duplication and the least coordination between the Railway Police and the Watch & Ward Department. Rail transport was gaining momentum, particularly after independence and integration. They carried daily increasing passenger-loads; quantity and value of goods carried multiplied. Rapid industrial expansion reflected on increasing transportation, could not leave the 'underworld' unimpressed; as is always the case, these criminals want to make hay while the sun is bright and their number of attempts also increased. These problems of even mild affluence come increasingly to the fore which only accentuated the need and urgency of having a trained and disciplined force, of character and conduct, who will mount the vigil needed to keep the life-line of the Nation unimpaired, and protect the property. Not only has the national asset to be guarded against outside interlopers, but also has to be made safe from corrosions, from enemies inside the organisation.

The R. P. F. the consequence of the compulsion of conditions and circumstances narrated earlier, was created through an act of Parliament. The Act laid the responsibility for security squarely on the Central Government, "as it has been found impossible to protect the railway property spread over thousands of miles all over the country, by methods till now followed by the Watch & Ward Department." The object of the Force is to deal with offences 'on track and on wheels' so to say, which obviously will overburden the State Police; the R. P. F. therefore is not a substitute for the State Police, but an effective variant intended to support and supplement State Police efforts to seek and supplant public enemies, whose purpose is to plunder, and thrive on crime and theft. The former Watch & Ward had no legal sanction behind it.

The administration of the R. P. F., an integrated force is vested in an Inspector-General, who controls and regulates the entire force in the Railway systems, within the general framework of rules framed under the Act. The Units of R. P. F. in each railway system is under the immediate charge of a Chief Security Officer, subject to the general supervision of the General Manager of the Railway. The apparent dual

control, generally by the Inspector-General and immediately by the General Manager, does in fact combine the virtues of technical efficiency and administrative pragmatism. The Inspector-General, the Chief Security Officers and a certain percentage of supervisory personnel are usually drawn from the State Police, which leavening, enlivens discipline, sense of mutuality and lively responsibility. As is usual in any such growth or outgrowth, there were some teething troubles, which are now things of the past; the R. P. F. and the State Police are close allies in a common enterprise and each draws strength and courage from the other. This was most clearly brought out in the uneasy July 1960 when Central Government employees struck work. The close co-operation of the two forces, particularly in the Southern region, made it possible to avoid any unseemly incidents and assure peace and orderly life and movement. That the R. P. F. is an effective complement to the Police may be seen in the fact that the R. P. F. have taken over the duties of escorting trains and valuables from the Police, enabling the latter to concentrate on the larger problems that a growing Nation faces.

The motley crowd of men who constituted the Watch & Ward is but a memory. The R. P. F., though historically a projection of the Watch & Ward, is entirely a new organisation. Selection of men to the force is strict, selected men drilled and disciplined in training centres, modelled on Police training institutions in the country. The men are educated and enthusiastic. They are trained in the use of fire-arms and also pick up the elements of law and commerce, necessary to make them better protectors of national assets. Till recently, railways were only 'bailies' under the Indian Railways Act, not generally accountable for customers' properties lost through thefts. The law has changed since and with it their obligations; as common carriers, they own full responsibilities for loss of properties and bound to pay compensation. The sums annually provided for in the Railway budget is not inconsiderable. The Claims Prevention Organisation functions along with the R. P. F. Efforts are already afoot to co-ordinate the claims prevention work with that of the R. P. F. and the Police. Another feature of development is the reorganisation of the fire fighting branch under the R. P. F. These fire fighters are a well-knit and well-trained force, comparable to similar services in the States.

The Railway Dog squads recently organised and stationed at important Railway Junctions and marshalling yards have proved their worth; they have kept the unsocial elements at bay. Instances are not wanting where these dogs have been requisitioned by State Police for crime investigation and prevention.

With the Nation on the march, the R. P. F. work is getting as much diversified as it is colourful. At the General elections of 1957 and 1962, regulation of traffic at V. I. P. visits, or on occasions requiring support, the R. P. F. have been to the fore to back Police efforts. The fine drill and smart turnout of the R. P. F. have earned them places in ceremonial parades, Independence and Republic Day celebrations. Through a short time, the R. P. F. of the Southern Railway have built up an excellent band. The Madras Police have used them to advantage at their Centenary celeb-

rations and at the various centres of Police exhibitions.

Disciplined, trained and dedicated as the R. P. F. is, it is above all a force of men with integrity and patriotism. The recent Chinese aggression on our frontiers proved this beyond doubt. Within hours of emergency - declaration, companies of R. P. F. were despatched to North East Frontier Area; they ensured safe transport of men and materials to the front against odds of weather and terrain. They stuck to their posts of duty, even when the local civilians and officials ran away for safety. The daring and dedication of these men of R. P. F. and the Police, I assert, helped our defence forces to meet the situation adequately and well.

And so has grown a force that keeps our nation on the move, towards new horizons of peace and prosperity. The R. P. F. is still growing; its growth is co-terminus with the growth of the Nation. The men of R. P. F. are silent, and strong, patriotic and proud people; their duty is the Nation's duty and they are ever at the Nation's call, through rain and shine, plain and rough, ill or well. As such, the recent decision of the Central Government to include them among the eligibles for the award of the President's Police and Fire Service Medal for gallantry and meritorious services is quite appropriate. No one has earned the honour more or better. These men of to-day are the gallants of to-morrow, helping the Police and aiding the Army—the creators of a better to-morrow.

The mind is its own place, and in itself
Can make a Heaven of Hell, a Hell of Heaven:

—MILTON.

Mr. BUG!

By

Sri K. S. VISWANATH, B.Sc.,
(Deputy. Supdt. of Police, Ariyalur)

I hate Mr. and Mrs. Bug and their hordes. Somehow, I am allergic to them. When I can tolerate even Mr. Mosquito or Mr. Fly, why should I hate Mr. Bug? The mistake lies not in me, but in the other party. The reason is not far to seek. Mr. Bug is a blood sucker. Kouman Tiger can be without blood, but not so Mr. Bug. He cannot live without blood, he would rather starve for days together until he tastes blood. Scientists may call this hibernation. I have tried all possible methods to end this tribe, but in vain. Cold blooded murder is of no use in his case for, if I smash one, legions crop up from the blood spilt. Even such a crude killing is very difficult in his case. He remains in the hidings only to come to attack the moment darkness sets in. It is not clear why darkness should be his friend. The moment I switch on the lights, immediately flees Mr. Bug with his associates. What fleeting foot this little infernal thing has! And in that running he can beat the world's best sprinter! I have tried various contraptions including huge atomizers to spray pesticides. Immediately on the smell of the poison, Mr. Bug runs to the crevices in the walls or to the roof and sticks there laughing at my ignorance. Several virulent poisons including Folidol have left him unscathed. I consulted the scientist and his opinion is revealing. It would appear that by spraying poisons, only the natural enemies of Mr. Bug, like Cockroaches and Lizards are killed and in some cases Mr. Bug himself takes the poison and though he is killed, his scions become immune to poison. It is stated that at present Diazinon (Tik 20) alone has toxic effect, but even then it may not be long before Mr. Bug gets over this poison and the scientist will have to rack his brain to bring about another poison. It seems to me that Mr. Bug and his tribe have got a boon from God as did Hiranyakshara of the Hindu Mythology, not to die at the hands of human beings. Or is the theory that matter cannot be destroyed proved?

2. Let alone the blood sucking habit. What atrocities Mr. Bug commits and upsets the equillibrium of the domestic lives. Several tragedies have taken place due to the activities of Mr. Bug. Once there was a domestic misunderstanding between the husband and wife resulting in the tragic death of their child. The husband who was a sepoy in the R. P. F. had cleaned his uniforms and kept them by the side of an almyrah in the wall. His wife who chanced to come to the room to pour kerosene oil into a lamp accidentally saw a bug running at great speed from a hole in the almyrah. The poor woman was so excited that she watched the running with great interest while trying to pour oil into the lamp. The result was the oil spilt on the neat uniform of her husband. A quarrel ensued in which the husband beat his wife and in consequence the woman went out in a temper with her tender child and fell into a forlorn well with a view to end their lives. As it happens in cases of this kind, the woman alone was rescued while the child died and the woman was indicted for murder.

3. Mr. Bug also creates problems for the Police officers. The N. M. E. P. an organization to destroy mosquitos with a view to eradicate Malaria have been spraying poisons. But as stated above, only enemies of Mr. Bug are killed leaving Mr. Bug hale and healthy. The country rustics unable to put up with the torture of Mr. Bug sleep in front of their houses, leaving their houses vulnerable to the attacks of thieves. Any person in want is attracted by the noble metal on the persons of the women sleeping outside and the jewels are snatched away. The Police Officer who arrives for investigation forgets that the mischief had been committed by Mr. Bug. The Police Officer naturally goes after the local criminals, M. O. Criminals Kindred M. O. criminals and the like. An enterprising Police Officer gets a Brain Wave that this is a 'korava crime' or a 'Marava Crime'. Immediately imagination runs riot and parties are sent to ferret out Kora Whisky or Soda or Sukran or Soorian. Who knows whether these criminals are either dead and gone or confined in some jails? The superiors think that koravars are out for crime and stern measures are to be taken to put down this menace. Thus the 'Korava Theory' takes roots. Sometimes, even the docile and inactive Criminals finding the place too hot flee to distant places and start their operations with a vengeance. The Police in these places are at sea, unable to know who the criminals are. Major Atcherley's M. O. system is of no use to these Police Officers. Petitions, Mahazars and the like follow indicting the Police Officers of slackness. Even Editorials are written in papers passing trenchant criticisms. All the while, my enemy goes on unhampered in search of his quarry. Would to God this were not so. Am I not, therefore, justified in hating Mr. Bug?

It is a custom,
More honor'd in the breach than the observance:

— SHAKESPEARE.

*FINGER PRINTS

By

Sri P. SEETHARAMAN.

(Director, Finger Print Bureau, Vellore)

Criminology is the Science that deals with crimes and criminals, and the science plays a very important role in the identification of criminals. Of all the scientific clues that may be found at the crime scenes, finger prints afford the best possible clue and serve as an infallible piece of evidence. The Finger Print Science is an important aid in the study of criminology.

FINGER PRINTS: FRICTION SKIN AND FORMATION OF RIDGES:— The palmer surfaces of the hands and the soles of the feet are covered by a special sort of skin. There are neither hairs nor sebacious (oil) glands unlike in the skin covering other parts of the body. It is called "friction skin". An examination of the surface shows that there are lines of varying lengths, some representing elevations and others depressions of the skin. The elevations are called "papillary ridges or friction ridges" and the depressions are called "furrows". The ridges form distinctive designs or patterns particularly on the finger tips and toes.

The ridges are studded with microscopic pores which are the mouths of the glands, secreting perspiration etc. They also assist to some extent the sense of touch. They make it possible for the fingers and palms to hold objects firmly, and prevent slipping. Hence they are called "friction ridges".

RIDGE CHARACTERISTICS:— The ridges are not generally continuous in their course but tend to differ from one another in various ways. When the course of the ridges are traced, some run through the pattern without interruption, while some end abruptly. Some of the ridges branch into two, and some assume varying formations. There are ridge beginnings, ridge ends, bifurcations or forks, enclosures, Islands, dots, etc. All these ridge details are termed "Ridge Characteristics".

(a) A ridge beginning is the beginning of a ridge.

(b) A ridge ending is a ridge abruptly stopping its course.

(c) A bifurcation is one single ridge splitting or forking into two or more branches.

(d) An enclosure is formed when once separated ridges meet again to become one ridge.

(e) An Island is a short independent ridge.

(f) A dot is exactly what the word implies—dot.

*Lectures on Finger Prints delivered to the Students of the Diploma Course in Criminology and Forensic Science

The ridges and characteristics form into distinctive designs or patterns such as arches, loops and whorls or a combination of similar designs, particularly in the finger tips.

THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF FINGER PRINT SCIENCE :— The Finger Print Science is based on the two following principles accepted both internationally and from the biological point of view.

The first principle on which the Finger Print System is based is the permanency of the ridges and their characteristics, The patterns, ridges and their characteristics are formed in the embryo before birth and there is absolutely no change from birth to old age and even after death, until the skin perishes as the result of decomposition. It is a permanent bodily mark which never changes throughout life. As an individual develops through childhood to maturity, ridge formations remain the same but the pattern increases in size as the hand grows. Ridge formations get damaged by accident, injury, burns, diseases or other unnatural causes. Ridges may be impaired temporarily by occupational pursuits. The ridges of persons working in lime, plastering, brick work etc. may get damaged, but they are corrected by nature very quickly, if given an opportunity, and the ridges on the reformed surface will be exactly of the same pattern as they existed previously.

The second principle on which the Finger Print System rests is that " No two finger prints are alike ". No two patterns made by fingers of different individuals nor by two fingers of the same persons have ever been found to be identical. The patterns, the ridge-characteristics such as ridge beginnings, ends, forks, islands and so on, are so individual, that even in a small area either from a finger or palmar surface or from the sole of a foot, a duplicate is impossible. In practical experience throughout the world no two finger prints, palm prints or sole prints have been found identical in the sequence of their ridge characteristics. It was proved by research by medical men that it is biologically impossible for two fingers either from the same person or from wo different persons to bear the same ridge details. Nature never repeats exactly.

The probable chances of finding the characteristics in prints from different persons were also mathematically calculated by many writers. Galton calculated this figure and arrived at the conclusion that the chances of two fingers being identical is less than 1 in 64,000,000,000 (1 in 64 billions). Balthazard and Seymor calculated the chances as 1 in a figure consisting of 61 digits; a figure greater than many times the population of the whole world. Balthazard calculated the chances as 1 in 1,606,937,974, 174, 171, 729, 761 809, 709, 564, 167,968,221, 673,569,604,401,795,301,376. Seymour worked out the chances as 1 in 1,000,000,000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000,000,000, 000,000,000,000,000,000,000. Sri S. K. Chatterjee, Director of the Central Finger Print Bureau, Calcutta, took into account ***only seven identical ridge characteristics*** and calculated the chances of their happening in two fingers as one in 781,250,000,000. These will convincingly prove the impossibility of finding identical prints in two different persons. Hence the identifications made by friction ridges are the most reliable, absolute and positive.

TYPES OF PATTERNS :— The system of Finger Print Classification adopted in the State Bureau as in all the States of the Indian Union and a majority of the countries in the world, is the one devised by Sir E. R. Henry.

The definitions or descriptions of the various types of patterns and cardinal points will be explained to you so as to enable you to follow easily the testimony of the Experts in Courts. All finger print patterns can be grouped under four main types—Arches, Loops, Whorls and Composites.

PLAIN ARCH :—In Arches there are two varieties—the Plain Arch and the Tented Arch.

In plain Arches the ridges run from one side to the other, making no backward turn; there is ordinarily no delta, but, when there is the appearance of the delta, no ridge must intervene between the inner and outer terminus.

TENTED ARCH :—In patterns of Arch type the ridges near the middle may have an upward thrust, arranging themselves, as it were, on both sides of a spine or axis, towards which adjoining ridges converge. The ridges thus converging give to the pattern the appearance of a tent in outline; hence the name Tented Arch. In order to demarcate clearly the line which separates Tented Arches from Loops whose ridges have a more or less vertical trend, it is held that if on either side of the axis even one ridge recurves the impression is a Loop.

LOOP :—In Loops some of the ridges make a backward turn but without a twist; there is one delta. There are two types of loops—the Ulnar and the radial. A Loop is ulnar when the downward slope of the ridges about the core is from the direction of the thumb towards that of the little finger. It is radial when the downward slope is from the direction of the little finger towards the thumb.

WHORLS :— In whorls some of the ridges make a turn through at least one complete circuit; there are two deltas. Whorls are single cored or double cored or elliptical in form. The general design of whorls may be either circular, spiral, oval, or in some other variant of the *rounded* forms.

COMPOSITES are sub-divided into Central pocket Loops, Lateral pocket Loops, Twin ned Loops and Accidentals.

CENTRAL POCKET LOOPS :— The Central Pocket Loop is a pattern in which the majority of the ridges have the appearance of a loop but in which one or more of the ridges within the pattern area recurve about the core, thus forming a pocket.

LATERAL POCKET LOOPS :— When the ridges constituting the loop bend sharply downwards on one side before recurving thereby forming on that side an interspace or pocket ordinarily filled by the ridges of another loop, the impression formed is termed a Lateral Pocket Loop.

TWINNED LOOP :—This pattern consists of two well defined loops, one super incumbent on or surrounding the other. Such an impression is termed a Twinned Loop.

In lateral Pocket Loops the ridges containing "the points of the core" have their exit on the same side of either delta. In Twinned Loops the ridges containing "the points of the core" have their exit on different sides.

ACCIDENTALS:— These patterns are too irregular in outline to be grouped under Central Pockets, Lateral Pockets, or Twinned Loops; they are termed, in the absence of a better nomenclature as Accidentals. Pattern of Arch type with Pockets, or Whorl surrounded by a Loop, a Loop resting on a Whorl etc., can be grouped under this head.

FIXED POINTS IN IMPRESSIONS:— In impressions of the Loop, Whorl and Composite types there are fixed points which will serve several useful purposes. These fixed points or focul points are :—

1. The "Delta" or "Outer terminus".

2. "The Point of the Core" or the inner terminus.

HOW IDENTITY IS ESTABLISHED

In comparing two finger prints, the patterns naturally are compared first. If the patterns are not the same, identity is out of question. If the prints belong to the same pattern, the details of the ridge characteristics and their position in relation to one another should be examined. This is done by counting the number of the ridges between the two characteristics. To determine identity the ridge characteristics in one impression should be seen in the other. Identity of an imprint is determined only by the coincident sequence of the ridge characteristics in the impressions. If a sufficient number of ridge characteristics is in-complete coincident agreement in two impressions, then it can be said definitely that the impressions were made by the same finger or palm.

Permanent scars and other constitutional or accidental deformation of the pattern may also be taken as a valuable proof of identity.

It sometimes happens, that, owing to varying degrees of pressure and the quality of the ink used, a particular characteristic such as a bifurcation of a ridge may appear as a ridge termination alongside another ridge or a ridge termination may appear as though it is joined with the other. This is due to the fact that the pappillary ridges are pliable and can become more or less flattened by varying degrees of pressure. Scenes-of-crime prints vary even to a larger degree Pressure causes the ridge to appear thicker than an inked impression. In certain impressions due to excessive oily substance, the prints may have the same effect. Scene-of-crime prints are traced on all sorts and conditions of surfaces and may present a different appearance when compared to inked prints.

Therefore it should be understood that in some cases, the ridges may present a slightly different appearance according to the manner in which the object is handled. The difference in the appearance of two impressions does not imply that they are not identical. The sizes of the prints should not be compared. Due to the growth or increase of fat, the size of the finger may change

slightly but the pattern and the characteristics remain unaltered. Whatever variation may be noticed in the general appearance, the sequence of the ridge characteristics remains constant, and it is upon this factor the identity is established.

NUMBER OF RIDGE CHARACTERISTICS IN AGREEMENT NECESSARY TO-ESTABLISH-IDENTITY

1. The question of the number of ridge characteristics in agreement in each print necessary to establish identity has often been raised. There is no rule of evidence covering this point. No definite rule can be laid down. It all depends upon the nature of the print and the detail of the characteristics. Some ridge characteristics occur with far less frequency than others. There are certain characteristics which are considered "Unusual" in which case it may carry additional weight. The more unusual or peculiar the print or characteristics, the greater is its weight. Special consideration is given to exceptional characteristics, groups of characteristics, and their position.

2. There is no unanimity as to the number of points which constitute perfect proof of identity. There is variance of opinion from country to country, State to State and among the various authors. The standard adopted in Scotland Yard is sixteen, while the American States consider that twelve such points are ample and that fewer may be sufficient in many cases. In Germany the minimum is stated to be eight. Many authors feel that 6 to 8 points are quite sufficient as positive proof of identification. The Director of the Central Finger Print Bureau, Calcutta, had considered that 7 would be quite sufficient to prove the identity in the impressions. The standard adopted in this State Bureau is 5 to 8 points, but more number of points are indicated where they are available. As stated above, the question depends upon the nature of the pattern, and peculiarities of ridge characteristics. There could, therefore, be no fixed set of rules. The expert arrives at his conclusions after a careful consideration of the merits of each case, based on the scientific knowledge and practical experience.

PALM PRINTS :— The palmar surfaces of the hands are covered by the friction skin consisting of ridges and furrows. The palm prints like finger prints possess the same characteristics of permanency throughout life and endless variations of general patterns and details. Palm prints also afford the same means of positive identification as finger prints. The same definition and procedure also applies to palm prints and both are in fact a portion of the same science.

The nature of this evidence is in all respects comparable to the finger prints.

SOLE PRINTS :— Patterns and ridge characteristics similar to those found on the finger tips are also found on the toes. In the case of toes prints or any portion of the sole prints, the same kind of evidence and procedure as in the case of finger prints or palm prints have to be adopted.

METHOD OF TAKING FINGER PRINTS.

The materials and apparatus required for taking thumb impressions or finger prints are:

1. A slab measuring about 6" x 4" on which to spread the ink. It may be of glass, a sheet of smooth copper, brass or tin. The slab should be mounted on a wooden base of 1½" thickness.

2. A rubber roller, such as is used by photographers, for spreading ink on the slab. It may be 4" long and 1½" or 2" in diameter. The rubber rollers, used by the printers for taking proof, answer this purpose.

3. Black Printer's ink (heavy paste) is the best medium for taking thumb impressions or finger prints. It dries quickly and yields good reproductions when photographed. When a thin film of ink is spread on the slab and the thumb or fingers are rolled on it, the elevated lines (ridges) on the thumb or fingers get inked and the depressions (furrows) in between the ridges do not get inked. When inked thumbs or fingers are rolled on paper clear reproductions of the pattern and the minute characteristics found on them are obtained. Fluid inks such as writing ink or stamp pad ink are highly unsatisfactory for taking thumb impressions as they not only ink the ridges but also run into furrows with the result that, when prints are taken on paper, they appear highly smudged.

4. A suitable stand or table with the edges cut square on which the impressions can be taken is also required and its height should be about 4 feet.

METHOD OF TAKING PRINTS :- The first step in taking thumb impression or finger prints is to ink the slab. Take a small quantity say, six drops of printer's ink on the slab and roll the ink back and forth with the roller until a very thin film of ink is obtained, spread evenly over the whole surface of the plate. Theoretically, the thickness of the film of ink on the plate should be less than half the elevation of the ridge on the skin surface. Before the impression is taken on the document or record, a test print may be taken to see the depth of ink. If the impression is faint, more ink should be spread on the slab. If there is too much ink on the plate, some of it can be removed by placing a sheet of paper on the plate and passing the roller over it.

The second step is to have the subject stand in front of and at forearm length from the inked slab. The operator should stand to the left of the subject. Holding the subject's hand, fold his fingers into the palm of his hand, leaving the thumb extended. The flexure of the end joint should be just within the edge of the plate. Place the subjects's thumb on the inked slab, so that the edge of his thumb nail is at right angles

to the plate. Roll the bulb surface gently from one nail boundary to the other. Having thus inked the thumb, roll it on the record or document at the desired place in the same manner.

If consideration is given to anatomical structure of the forearm, more satisfactory prints will be secured. This requires that the thumb and the fingers be always rolled away from the body of the person whose finger prints are taken.

In this way clear prints of the thumb, or, if necessary, all the fingers may be taken. The prints should be black, sharp in pattern, with the impressions of ridges that can be counted and studied easily. There should not be too much pressure while inking the thumb or printing or both as it may blur the prints.

It is most important that the slab and the rubber roller should be kept scrupulously clean, and all traces of finger print ink should be removed from them after use. A cleaning fluid such as benzine, spirit or kerosene may be used. It is impossible to obtain good results with dirty plates and rollers. (It is imperative that the roller should be run over the slab immediately after using it once for taking a print, and before another finger is inked on it.)

Before the impressions are taken the thumb or finger should be thoroughly cleaned with spirit or petrol.

This removes all traces of perspiration which, if allowed to remain on the skin surface, will spoil the impression, the resultant impression being blurred or indistinct. When rolling the thumb or finger, light and even pressure should be applied. If excessive pressure is used, the resultant impression would be blurred and indistinct.

If the thumb or finger is not completely rolled the impression might not contain the full design or pattern found on the bulb surface of the thumb or finger.

The taking of thumb impressions or finger prints is not a difficult process, and if the instructions are followed, and sufficient care is taken during the process, clear and well defined prints can be taken, and there will be far fewer cases of disputed finger prints and there will be no chance for any one to give a smudge of a print on a document and then try to escape liability by pleading that it is not his finger print.

SEARCH AT THE SCENES-OF-CRIME: The most spectacular fact of Finger Print Work is that which deals with the examination of Finger Print clues at the scene-of-crime. The search for the chance prints at the scenes-of-crimes should be conducted intelligently, systematically and thoroughly. The investigator should in the first instance warn the residents not to touch any object lest they damage any finger print left by the culprit or super impose their own finger prints on them. Then, he should re-construct the crime as to how it could have happened. The logical place to start a search for finger print clues is the point of entry or the starting place. An examination of the entire scene should be made to know how the culprit has entered. The objects he is

suspected to have handled or known to have handled in the course of committing the offence should be subjected to a thorough scrutiny. The object of attack has much to do with a search for finger print clues and it should receive greater attention and closer examination. The search should be conducted in a methodical manner. Suppose a room is searched for finger print clues. Standing at the entrance, start at the left and go around the room examining carefully everything enroute for chance prints. Next, examine the objects in the middle of the room or place. If this is done nothing will be overlooked. While examining the point of entry, a careful inspection of the walls, doors and windows should be made. A search should also be made for any personal belongings of the culprit which might possibly have been left behind by the culprit. While searching for finger print clues a strong light, preferably a flash light should be used. Impressions which may not be visible in direct light may become visible if the light is thrown at an angle. This method of investigation will yield very fruitful results if conducted properly. Even a stray chance finger print traced at the scenes-of-crime, (if sufficient number of ridge characteristics are found in it,) would be of great value to the identification of the criminal and in the detection of the crime.

FINGER PRINTS AT THE SCENES-OF-CRIME :—Chance impressions or casual impressions are those which are made by accident on articles or surfaces while they are being handled. Such impressions are made by perspiration excreted through the pores of the finger tips and palms or by oily matter, which the fingers and palms gather when they touch hairy portions of the body or when the fingers get contaminated by foreign substances such as blood, dirt, grease, ink, stains etc.

Criminals leave chance prints at the scenes-of-crime during the course of the commission of the offence and the identification of such chance prints is of very great importance in the investigation of crimes.

On searching the scene-of-crime the Expert may come across three kinds of impressions: viz, (1) plastic or mould impressions, (2) visible impressions, and (3) invisible or latent impressions.

(1) THE PLASTIC OR MOULD IMPRESSIONS :—These are formed by the pressure of the fingers on soft and pliable materials such as wet soap, melted candle, vaseline, resin etc., thereby producing an actual mould of the finger print pattern on the material.

(2) THE VISIBLE IMPRESSIONS :—These are the impressions left by the fingers covered with some coloured material such as blood, ink, wet paint or dirt.

These two kinds of impressions require no special processing before study but are photographed immediately.

(3) THE INVISIBLE IMPRESSIONS OR LATENT IMPRESSIONS :— The skin on the fingers, palms and soles of the feet is covered with ridges as already stated. There are minute pores on the top of the ridges through which sweat is excreted. The fingers and palms also get contaminated with the oily substance secreted by the sebacious

glands in the hairy portions of the body. When the fingers or palms so coated with the thin film of sweat or oily substance, come into contact with any other object or surface, the pattern of the ridges are impressed on the surface. On account of the colourless nature of the deposits, they are invisible and indistinct for photographing directly. The latent prints are intensified in some way to show good contrast with the background upon which they are located, and the intensification process is called the development of latent prints. The developing re-agents are in powder, liquid, and vapour forms. The powder method is commonly adopted in police work and there are varieties of powders, which are used to suit the nature and colour of the objects. For developing the prints, a small quantity of the developing powder is taken with the tip of the brush and brushed with light strokes over the suspected areas very gently and carefully. When the powder is spread across the surface the ridges begin to appear. The excess powder is removed by delicate brushing or blowing. When the excess powder is removed, the developed print appears clearly in contrast to its brckground. It is then photographed. The latent print on a heavy unportable object or on a surface where it cannot be photographed by any means, can be developed by means of iodine-(vapour) silver process. Such an impression can also be developed by means of powders and lifted with a ready-made transparent lifting tape or rubber lifters. The lifted impression is then photographed for comparison and identification.

Chance prints are those left by the offenders hurriedly in the course of their commission of the offence. In most cases, they may either be partial or fragmentary. They may be faint, twisted and distorted and may not be as clear and perfect as an inked impression. The clearness of the impressions depends on the nature of the object, i.e., the porosity of the object handled, the manner in which the impressions are made, whether with a firm grip or in a slippery way and also the amount of excretion of oily matter deposited on the object.

All these factors should be borne in mind while examining the chance prints traced at the scene-of-crime and presented as evidence.

Having located the chance prints at the scene-of-crime, it is quite necessary to eliminate the finger prints of the inmates and other persons who have legitimate access to the premises. Prints of such persons should be taken and compared with those found at the scene, to exclude them from complicity in the crime. Eliminations narrow the search for the guilty person. The proper time and place to get finger prints for elimination is at the crime-scene and while the investigation is under way. Elimination prints taken at the scene-of-crime speed up the investigation to a very great extent.

Having eliminated such of those prints as belonging to the inmates etc., the remaining prints which are un-identified, can be reasonably suspected to belong to the criminal or criminals who committed the offence. Having secured such a print, photographs of the imprints should be immediately taken for comparison and identification of the criminal.

The Finger Print Bureau is adopting a number of techniques for the identification of such chance prints. In cases where certain persons are suspected, their finger prints are taken and sent to the Bureau for the purpose of comparison. If the chance prints are identified with finger prints of anyone of those suspects, the investigator is informed immediately, of the identification made. If the offence is suspected to have been committed by ex-convicts, the investigator studies the Modus Operandi of the offence and prepares a list of criminals who are addicted to such Modus Operandi and sends the list to the Finger Print Bureau.

Thereupon the Bureau picks out the finger print slips of such Modus Operandi Criminals from the records and identifies the criminal, if the offence had been committed by one of those Modus Operandi Criminals.

In some cases the characteristics and peculiarities of the chance prints are even memorized by the Experts who identify them if they come across the finger prints of the criminals by chance in the course of their routine work. In some cases identifications are effected by a comparison of the chance prints with the finger prints of persons who are arrested daily by the Police Stations and whose finger prints received in the Finger Print Bureau for tracing their antecedents. The Bureau concentrates more on chance prints identification with a view to render maximum aid to the investigating officers.

SINGLE DIGIT SYSTEM.

Some of you might be aware that whenever a person is arrested at the Police Station and his antecedents are not known, their finger prints are taken and sent to the Bureau for tracing their antecedents. The Finger Print Bureau, Vellore, maintains records of all persons convicted for specified offences. In this collection of records the finger prints of all the ten digits of a person are taken in a specified form and are arranged according to a classification formula based on the patterns in the ten fingers in combination.

Though it helps a great deal in tracing the antecedents of an arrested unknown person, it has its limitations. It is not possible to search the entire collection and locate the criminal with a stray chance print. To obviate this difficulty, a single Finger Print System has been devised. In this system each finger print is taken as a separate unit, classified with reference to the patterns and arranged separately. The Single Digit Collection is restricted to house-breakers and house-thieves only. This system can be worked out with greater success only in big cities and towns where there are rich peoples's residences, big shops and well furnished bungalows, as chance impressions can be found on smooth and polished surfaces. This system was introduced in Madras City in 1956 and on the success achieved, the system was extended to the other important towns of Madurai and Coimbatore.

POINTS OF EVIDENCE IN CASES:— The following are the main points of evidence in simple cases of house-breakings etc., in which chance prints found on the objects at the scene-of-crime are later identified as those of the accused in the cases:—

(1) PROOF OF COMMISSION OF CRIME:—This, of course, is a necessary preliminary in Criminal Proceedings.

(2) THE DISCOVERY OF THE CHANCE PRINTS AT THE SCENE-OF-CRIME AND THE TAKING POSSESSION OF THE OBJECT ON WHICH IT APPEARS:—Evidence must be taken of the discovery of the impression at the scene-of-crime and the forwarding of the article on which it appears. The object bearing the actual impression, (if it is not available, the photo of the impression) must be produced and connected with the crime.

(3) PROOF THAT THE ACCUSED COULD NOT HAVE MADE THAT IMPRESSION LEGITIMATELY EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER THE CRIME:— In some cases the accused often resort to the defence of owning the finger- prints and then trying in some way to account for their presence.

(4) THE IDENTIFICATION BY THE OWNER OF THE OBJECT UPON WHICH THE IMPRESSION APPEARS:-

(5) PROOF OF FORWARDING THE ARTICLES (OR PHOTOGRAPH OF THE IMPRESSIONS) TO THE FINGER PRINT BUREAU:—It is necessary that the article containing the finger prints should be linked up definitely from the time it leaves the scene-of-crime until it is produced in Court.

(6) PROOF OF ARREST OF THE ACCUSED:—In cases where the accused is arrested as a result of identification of his finger prints left at the scene-of-crime, the arresting officer should state clearly the details leading to his arrest.

(7) PRODUCTION OF FINGER PRINTS OF THE ACCUSED PERSON:- The finger prints of the accused person taken after arrest must be produced and it must be proved that they are the finger prints of the accused. This will be proved by the officer who took the finger prints of the accused.

(8) THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF THE IMPRESSIONS OF THE ARTICLES AND THOSE OF THE ACCUSED:—

(9) THE EVIDENCE OF THE EXPERT:—The Expert will prove the receipt of the articles at the Bureau (or photographs of the impressions) and also the receipt of the finger prints of the accused, or the suspects taken after the offence was committed. He will also prove the identity of the prints.

THE VALUE OF FINGER PRINT SCIENCE.

The science of Finger Print Identification has stood the test of time and has proved itself infallible. Its accuracy and reliability are firmly established. It is based on the inexorable universal Law of Nature that no two finger prints are ever identical and that the patterns, ridges and the other characteristics remain permanent throughout a man's life. Finger prints afford the best possible proof of identity. There is no other method of personal identification

which can surpass the finger print method. It positively proves the presence of the person who made the impression beyond all doubts, whether *or* not the presence is legitimate.

The evidence of the Finger Print Expert particularly that from an Expert of the Bureau whose reports are checked and counter checked is of more value than the ordinary evidence of an Expert. If the evidence is presented in such a way that the Court is able to follow the reasoning of the Expert and is convinced of the accuracy of the opinion, there is no reason why the accused person should not be convicted solely on the evidence of the Expert. There is nothing in the Evidence Act which requires that the Evidence of the Expert should be corroborated. There are a number of judicial decisions in support of this view.

Some may feel and argue that Finger Print Evidence is only a "Circumstantial Evidence" and that it should not carry as much weight as "Direct Evidence". There seems to be no reasonable ground for holding such views. A proper understanding of what a Finger Print Evidence is, would convince even a sceptic that such circumstantial evidence is not less reliable than direct evidence, but on the contrary more reliable. Crimes are committed in secrecy and the criminal takes all precautions to conceal his identity. But he leaves accidentally at the crime-scene, not only finger and foot prints but hairs, fibres, tool marks etc., which identify him with greater certainty than a mere eye-witness would. These physical facts which are silent witnesses positively prove the guilt of the guilty and the innocence of the innocent. The Finger Print Expert's testimony therefore ranks high among all kinds of evidence.

The fashion wears out more apparel than the man.

—SHAKESPEARE.

The Manasuba Fraud Case

By

Sri L. M. KITTO,

Administrative Inspector of Police, Crime Branch, Madras City.

Sri K. P. Janakan, young, debonair and shrewd, sat at his counter in the Enquiry Section of the Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Traffic and Licensing, Madras, scrutinising the Registration Certificates of various types of vehicles, whose owners were queued up alongside his counter for various transactions of Taxation Payment, Hire Purchase Endorsements and the like. It was a hot Summer mid-morning, that fateful 19th day of May 1961, when lanôgur crept in to steal the perception of an active mind. It was at this psychological moment that Madan Lal, a reputed Financier of Madras City, presented the Registration Book of Lorry MSX 2305 for an Hire Purchase Note endorsement. Janakan casually turned the leaves of the registration book, when his attention was gradually atracted to the fact that he was looking at something unfamiliar. On a closer scrutiny, he discovered that the Registration Book was not in the usual form, but appeared to be rather a crude reproduction of a genuine Registration Book. To confirm his suspicion, he closely examined the signature of the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Traffic and Licensing, and he was astonished to find that it was a forgery. He immediately impounded the R. C. Book and obtained a statement from Madanlal, who intimated that the R. C. Book had been given to him by one Sri C. V. Raman, the Managing Director of Manasuba & Co., Engineering Contractors at Royapettah High Road, with whom he had concluded a Hire Purchase Agreement over the vehicle. Checking up with the folder maintained in the Office in respect of that particular vehicle, he discovered that it had already been hypothecated to quite another firm of Financiers. The discovery was explosive for it precipitated into the limelight the intrigues and machinations of an exceptionally clever but perverted mind.

Sri C. V. Raman was a graduate of the Madras University and a descendent of a very highly placed family of Mylapore, Madras, emigrated from Srirangam in Tiruchirapalli. Ambitious and enterprising, he conceived the idea of establishing a Firm of Engineering Contractors to do business in the expanding Lignite Project at Neyveli. For this purpose the Manasuba Company, having its head office at No. 33, Royapettah High Road, Madras-14 was established in 1957, the other share holders in the Firm being Sri T. K. Balasubramania Iyer, Civil Engineer, Sri T. V. Narayanaswamy Iyer, Smt. Choodamani Ammal, Mother-in-law of C. V. Raman and Smt. Rengammal Thatham, the Sister of C. V. Raman. They were respectable people of Mylapore area with

diverse other interests occupying their full time attention. As a consequence of this, C. V. Raman got himself elected as the Managing Director with a free hand to run the concern, but to show dividends to the other share holders. The Firm was first started on a meagre capital of Rs. 10,000/-, but subsequently, with the addition of new share holders, it was increased to Rs. 50,000/-. C. V. Raman was ambitious to establish himself as an effective business-man, and he took up large contracts for supply of building materials, road metals, etc., with the Neyveli Lignite Project to the tune of Rs. 7½ Lakhs. MONEY was the criterion for the purpose of expansion of the business, and money was urgently required for the purchase of transport vehicles, construction materials and Labour required to execute the contracts entered into with the Project, but MONEY was the only thing Raman did not have. He had therefore to resort to fraud and dishonesty to achieve his ambitions. At the very outset, transport was, his main problem, and so he conceived the idea of exploiting the currently popular system of the Hire Purchase Agreement. He purchased lorries from Sundaram Finance, Rane & Co., and Ashok Leyland, and in a series of transactions, hypothecated these vehicles, in succession, to various reputed Financiers of Madras City to the tune of Rupees 24½ lakhs. Under the H. P. A. system, a vehicle once hypothecated can never be hypothecated a second time unless the loan is cleared, and a contravention of this rule is tantamount to an offence under Section 406 of the Indian Penal Code. Every such hypothecation of a vehicle is brought on record in its relevant Registration Certificate Book by the Traffic Office, attested by the Deputy Commissioner, Traffic and Licensing, Madras. Simultaneously, a corresponding entry is made in the Folder of that vehicle maintained by the concerned Clerk. It is therefore obvious that subsequent Hypothecation of a vehicle can never be executed without the knowledge of the Traffic Office. To surmount this difficulty, C. V. Raman had duplicate R. C. Books secretly printed, and therein he had filled up the entries relating to each vehicle, and forged every one of the signatures of the concerned Traffic Office Staff and the Deputy Commissioner, Traffic & Licensing, including the Designation Rubber Stamp. He had thus printed- forged R. C. Books for 21 lorries and two Cars to execute over fifty Transactions of Hire Purchase with various Financiers as well as the Punjab National Bank and the Pandian Bank of Madras.

C. V. Raman also devised other fraudulent means for raising money, even in his transactions with the Neyveli Lignite Project, by exploiting the discounting facilities provided by the Punjab National Bank and the Bank of Baroda. Here C. V. Raman forged and presented Delivery Notes purported to have been signed by the Lignite-Project Officials for the supply of Timber in the work yards for the construction of buildings, and by deceiving the Banks, fraudulently drew a sum of Rs. 7½ lakhs on consignments that were actually never supplied. It was obvious, even to C. V. Raman himself, that he could not execute his various schemes without adequate assistance. For this purpose, he took into confidence his personal clerk N. A. Srinivasan, who was a very willing and able accomplice in his

intrigues. Nor had he forgotten his assurances to the Share Holders. To lull any possible probe into his activities from that quarter, he made out false Balance Sheets and periodically paid them pleasing dividends, so that they sat back soothed and contented. However, the payoff in Crime is inevitable. There would always be one little slip in the chain of events that would bring the whole edifice of a Criminal's career toppling down like a house of cards, and the slip in this case was provided by Madanlal, when he had appeared in the Traffic Office with the forged R. C. Book given to him by C. V. Raman. In handing over to him the Forged R. C. Book, C. V. Raman had merely intended to soothe the Financier's suspicions, but never had he expected that Madan Lal would carry the document to the Traffic Office. C. V. Raman made frantic efforts to get at Madan Lal before he presented the forged R. C. at the Traffic Office Counter, but he was too late. Frustrated, he knew that this was the beginning of the end, and so he destroyed all the other forged R. C. Books he had in his possession with a view to obliterate every trace of evidence against him.

On a complaint from Janakan, a Case in X. Cr. No. 438/61 Section 406, 420, 467, 468, 471, 120-B I. P. C. was registered and the Law was set in motion. The wheels of the Law ground slowly, but they ground exceedingly well. The Investigation Officers delved into an enormous maze of Documents from the Manasuba Office, the various Banks of the City and the Catacombs of the Record Office of the Neyveli Lignite Project to bring to light a series of criminal transactions effected by C. V. Raman and his accomplice. Sri Krishnan, the Superintendent of the Government Press, Madras and Sri Kalayanasundaram of the Madras State Forensic Science Laboratory pinned the forgeries on the various documents on C. V. Raman and his accomplice N. A. Srinivasan, that they could not wriggle out of them.

C. V. Raman and his accomplice were arraigned before the Sessions Courts at Madras, and they contested every inch of the ground with dogged tenacity through the elite of the Madras Bar, but the scales of Justice tipped in favour of the Prosecution, and C. V. Raman was convicted and sentenced to undergo seven years Rigorous Imprisonment whilst Srinivasan, a one-time Lieutenant in the Indian Army, was sent down for three years R. I. in S. C. No. 4/62. The Infamous Manasuba Company was wound up, and its assets and liabilities were placed in the hands of the Official Liquidator of the High Court, Madras for disposal.

Thus was brought to a close an interesting chapter in the History of Crime, where perverted Genius met its nemesis by a thoughtless *FAUX-PAS* proving once again the age-old saying that 'Crime does not pay".

The Physical qualities of a good driver

By

M. DURAISINGH FRANCIS,
Inspector of Police, Udumalpet.

Not a great deal of physical strength is needed in order to drive well. Our present day automobiles if they are in good operating condition, are so effective mechanically that very little strength is required to handle them. Any one who is in a condition which may cause him to lose control of his muscle or senses without sufficient warning to allow him to bring his car to a safe halt, should not drive. Persons who are having serious heart trouble, epilepsy, extremely low or high blood pressure or any other disease which is likely to result in sudden collapse should not drive.

2. Even if one is fundamentally sound, there may be times when he will be so far below par that he should not attempt to drive. It is better at such times to pull of the road until he is fit to go on. Extreme fatigue may affect him in either of two ways. It may cause drowsiness which at any moment, despite his best efforts to stay awake, may turn into total unconciousness, and that means he will be asleep at the wheel. Or, his fatigue may produce a mental state which will deceive him into believing that he is capable of driving safely, although as a matter of fact he may be incorrectly judging distances, speed and driving conditions. The wise driver never tries to operate his car when he is extremely tired.

3. By far the most necessary sense you will need in driving is good vision. A person's 'field of vision' is the extent to which he can see to the sides while looking straight ahead. Obviously, an adequate field of vision is important in safe driving. It is only through side vision that the driver can, while looking straight ahead, also view objects and movements to the right and left. Tunnel or 'barrel' vision is an inability to see broadly. It generally cannot be corrected by either glasses or surgery. In order to test this yourself, look fixedly at a mark on the wall directly in front of you and on a level with your eyes. Now extend your arms straight out at the sides, Shoulder-high and thumbs up, and wiggle your thumbs. If your eyes can detect the fact that movement of some sort is going on, you do not have tunnel vision.

4. Depth perception is the ability to judge the distance of objects. There is a slight difference in the position of an object as seen by the two eyes, and this difference becomes progressively greater as the distance of the object is lessened. Persons with only one good eye or having vision that is otherwise defective cannot detect this difference. Sensitivity to glare-Persons vary in their ability to see clearly against a strong light, and also in the rapidity with which the pupils of their eyes expand back to normal after the glare which caused them to contract has subsided.

5. Colour blind drivers must compensate for their deficiency by developing certain

techniques of their own which will enable them to differentiate between Red (Stop) amber (caution) and green (go) signal lights at nights.

6. No human being can act instantaneously. It takes a certain amount of time for the eyes to telegraph a warning to the brain, for the brain to decide what to do and to transmit its instructions to the muscles and then for the muscles to get into action and complete the movements. The time which elapses between the instant the eye perceives a situation that calls for a single, simple action and the instant the muscles perform that action is the reaction time which is normally about one-half of a second. The minimum actual distance under ideal road condition, in which one can stop the vehicle in an emergency, depends on two basic factors; the reaction time and the distance the car will continue to travel after the brakes are applied.

7. Good hearing is an asset to any driver, for it helps him to judge to a certain extent the distance speed and direction of case in his immediate vicinity, without actually having to see them.

8. With increasing age, all persons suffer in varying degree from gradually failing of the senses, bodily strength and endurance.

9. Irresponsible driver is one,

(1) Driving at a greater than safe speed under existing condition, failing to grant the right of way to the driver or pedestrian to whom it rightfully belongs:

(2) Driving too closely behind the car ahead;

(3) Driving in the wrong lane;

(4) Driving on the wrong side of the road;

(5) Passing whenever the fancy strikes them.

(6) Passing on the wrong side;

(7) Disregarding signs, signals and markings.

10. Drivers with EMOTIONAL IMMATURITY are boastful, competitive and show off. He drives as fast as he dares, particularly if he has passengers to impress. He speeds right up to a red light or stop signal and then jams on his brakes. He drives in congested traffic at high speed with one hand on the wheel and the other dangling out of the window.

11. INATTENTIVE DRIVER.

Driving is a full time job which requires constant concentration on all the characteristics of the road, the warning signs and signals, the pedestrians and bicyclists, the road and weather conditions, curves, hills, blind corners and all the actual and possible manoeuvre of other cars. Avoid all animated conversations with companions, gesturing and bobbing heads over an exciting topic; absorbed in interested scenes or objects along the side of the road, or any kind of distraction by things that have no connection with driving problem should be avoided.

12. Good Judgment is the ultimate result that is produced by smooth working together of all the elements that go to make the good driver. Learning to drive must be closely connected with learning to live. For being a good driver requires the same qualities that are needed if you are to be a good citizen, a good neighbour, a good son and a good brother.

PRISONER'S PERSONAL PROPERTIES

By

Sri P. UPENDRAN, B.A.,

Sub Inspector of Police, (Law and Order) Madurai R. P. Station.

It was on 27—7—63 night, while I was attending to my routine work at the station that I was startled to find four of my constables triumphantly placing two baskets of snakes with an air of ease and comfort, requesting me to take charge of them. I could make neither head nor tail of their act and looked at them in suspense when they started narrating the story behind the baskets.

These four constables were on Court duty at Madurai Railway First Class Magistrate's Court at Madurai Junction and were deputed to escort the convicted persons from the Court to the Central Jail, Madurai. They took twenty-six prisoners including two snake-charmers to the Central Jail along with their personal properties. The serpent charmers were convicted to one week S. I. by the Rly. First Class Magistrate, Madurai, for having travelled in the train without tickets and their personal properties which consisted of two baskets of serpents were also sent to Central Jail, Madurai. The Jail authorities accepted the prisoners and refused to acknowledge the receipt of the asps, saying that they could not keep snakes in the prison. The constables had the courage and wisdom to get the serpents safely packed in their baskets, and deliver them to me for disposal. I was rather baffled to find that the constables had accepted the property under acknowledgement which meant that the orders of the Court were necessary for any further action.

In an agitated mind, I confessed to my subordinates that snake-charming is not included in the curriculam of a Sub Inspector's training at Vellore and incidentally warned them not to play with venomous creatures by quoting the sad end of veteran snake-charmers. I consulted a senior colleague of mine to find a solution to this problem, which bewildered me at that late hour of the night. He was also equally astounded but told me as to how on prior occasions, the jugglers who were sent to gaols tied their baskets to tree-tops in front of the Central Jail to take them back and continue their avocation on their release. Now the question arose as to where to keep the snakes in the night and there was no alternative for me than to deposit the baskets wrapped in a gunny bag in the arms room. The sentry P. C. took charge of the properties with an entry in the sentry relief book as per my orders. I went home thinking and laughing to myself about the strange

problems that confront a police officer. I need not mention here that the sentry P.C. was unusually alert and careful the whole of the night for he was aware that the safety of his person was in jeopardy.

The following day I went to the station early in the morning to attend the parade. I was astonished to find my constables standing in front of the arms room and looking curiously at a dead rat. I was told that the rat which had no tail moved out of the arms room slowly, dropped down and died abruptly with its belly bloated. I at once inferred that it had meddled with the baskets and that the hungry snakes had eaten away its tail. The venom that had been injected through the tail, had caused the death of the mischievous rat. Having known that the baskets had been tampered with, none of the constables ventured to tread inside the room and the parade was confined to squad drill without arms.

The constables apprised me of the presence of four cobras and four other vipers in the baskets with the warning that for two cobras the poisonous teeth had not been extracted. I spared no time to send an express report through a special messenger to the Honarary First Class Magistrate requesting him to pass orders for the destruction of the snakes or some other speedy disposal. The Magistrate was kind enough to direct me to destroy the snakes or to hand them over to some other juggler.

On 28—7—63, with the assistance of well armed spectators the baskets were brought out and placed in a deep pit to bury them alive. The final rites were performed without police honours of course, and the obsequies included pouring of milk and dropping of raw rice mixed with turmeric powder. Although this was considered to be a superstitious belief, we were not inclined to overlook this on account of the sentimental objections in burying cobras worshipped by Hindus. We were sure that the snakes would die of suffocation and starvation.

This funny episode reached its climax when the snake-charmers turned up at the station on their release a week after the burial and demanded exhumation. The jugglars Raman and Guruswami of Virudhunagar protested that the snakes were the principal assets for their trade as they were eking out their livelihood by them. Once again the Magistrate had to be addressed for permission to unearth the baskets. They dug out the baskets and nonchalantly opened them in the midst of a huge crowd. To the utter stupefaction of one and all three snakes including two cobras were found dead while five of them remained alive in spite of having spent a week without food or air. One of the cobras had also laid about a dozen eggs which were so elastic that they rebounded on the floor. . The cobras sprang out of the baskets like a child from the womb and a ghost from the tomb and sprightily danced with their hoods to the tunes of the two serpent-charmers who thanked us for having buried the snakes alive. I heaved a sigh of relief with the satisfaction that the personal properties of a prisoner had been after all handed over to him.

LEGAL CAUSERIE

By

G. RAJANGAM, M.A.,
(Vice Principal, P. T. C., Vellore.)

Criminal Appeal No. 16 of 1958, Feb. 7, 1958 Bhagwati, Kapur & Gajendragadkar, J J, Talab Haji Hussain Vs. Madhukar Purushottam Mondkar & another.

Cr. P. C (V of 1898) Ss. 561-A & 496—Bailable offence—Cancellation of bail.

Gajendragadkar, J J :— The material provisions on the subject of bail are contained in Ss. 496 to 498 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. S. 497 deals with the question of granting bail in the case of non-bailable offences. S. 498(1) confers on the High Court or the Court of Sessions power to direct admission to bail is admissible under Ss. 496 and 497 whether in such cases there be an appeal against conviction or not."

"There is no doubt that under S. 496 a person accused of a bailable offence is entitled to be released on bail pending his trial. As soon as it appears that the accused person is prepared to give bail, the police officer or the Court, before whome he offers to give bail, is bound to release him on such terms as to bail as may appear to the officer or the Court to be reasonable. It would even be open to the officer or the Court to discharge such person on executing his bond as provided in the section instead of taking bail from him."

"Whereas legislature has specifically conferred power on the specified Courts to cancel the bail granted to a person accused of a non-bailable offence by the provisions of S. 497(5), no such power has been conferred on any Court in regard to persons accused of bailable offences."

"S. 561-A of the Code was added to the Code in 1923 and it purports to save the inherent power of the High Courts. It provides that nothing in the Code shall be deemed to limit or affect the inherent power of the High Court to make such orders as may be necessary to give effect to any order under the Code or to prevent abuse of the process of any Court or otherwise to secure the ends of justice."

"Lacunae are sometimes discovered in procedural law and it is to cover such lacunae and to deal with cases where such lacunae are discovered that procedural law invariably recognises the existence of inherent power in Courts. It would be noticed that it is only the High Courts whose inherent power is recognized by S. 561-A; and even in regard to the High Courts' inherent power definite salutary safeguards have been laid down as to its exercise."

"Now it is obvious that the primary object of Criminal Procedure is to ensure a fair trial of accused persons. But a fair trial has naturally two objects in view; it must be fair to the accused and must also be fair to the prosecution. The test of fairness in a criminal trial must be judged from this dual point of view. A criminal trial must never be so conducted by the prosecution as would lead to the conviction of an innocent person; similarly, the progress of a criminal trial must not be obstructed by the accused so as to lead to the acquittal of a really guilty offender. The acquittal of the innocent and the conviction of the guilty are the objects of a criminal trial and so there can be no possible doubt that, if any conduct on the part of an accused person is likely to obstruct a fair trial, there is occasion for the exercise of the inherent power of the High Courts to secure the ends of justice. There can be no more important requirement of the ends of justice than the uninterrupted progress of a fair trial; and it is for the continuance of such a fair trial that the inherent powers of the High Courts are sought to be invoked by the prosecution in cases where it is alleged that accused persons, either by subording or intimidating witnesses, are obstructing the smooth progress of a fair trial. Similarly, if an accused person who is released on bail jumps bail and attempts to run to a foreign country to escape the trial, that again would be a case where the exercise of the inherent power would be justified in order to compel the accused to submit to a fair trial and not to escape its consequences by taking advantage of the fact that he has been released on bail and by absconding to another country. in other words, if the conduct of the accused person subsequent to his release on bail puts in jeopardy the progress of a fair trial itself and if there is no other remedy which can be effectively used against the accused person, in such a case the inherent power of the High Court can be legitimately invoked. In regard to non-bailable offences there is no need to invoke such power because S. 497(5) specifically deals with such cases."

"It would now be relevant to enquire whether, on principle, a distinction can be made between bailable and non-bailable offences in regard to the effect of the prejudicial conduct of accused persons subsequent to their release on bail. S. 561-A. Omission of legislature to make a specific provision in that behalf is clearly due to oversight or inadvertence and cannot be regarded as deliberate. The argument is that a person accused of a bailable offence has such an unqualified right to be released on bail that even if he does his worst to obstruct or to defeat a fair trial, his bail-bond cannot be cancelled and a threat to a fair trial cannot be arrested or prevented."

"Fortunately that does not appear to be the true legal position if the relevant provisions of the Code in regard to the grant of bail are considered as a whole along with the provisions of S. 561-A of the Code."

11

Madras Weekly Notes—Supreme Court Reports—1958 M. W. N. S. C. Haji Hussani Vs. Purushottam Mondkar.

Criminal Appeal No. 134/61 dated 10—12—62—Supreme Court—Ram Lochan Vs. State of West Bengal—Evidence Act Sec. 9—Super-imposed photograph—Admissibility to prove idendity:—

Their Lordships in this appeal have held that a super-imposed photograph is admissible in evidence u/s 9 of the Indian Evidence Act to prove the identity of the skeleton of the deceased in a case of murder as itself is a fact in issue. "That identity could be established by its physical or visual examination with reference to any peculiar features in it which would mark it out as belonging to the person whose bones or skeleton it is stated to be. Similarly the size of the bones, their angularity or curvature, the prominences or the recessions would be features which on examination and comparison might serve to establish the "identity of a thing" within the meaning of Sec. 9. What we have in the present case is first a photograph of that skull. That the skull would be admissible in evidence for establishing the identity of the deceased was not disputed and similarly a photograph of that skull. That a photograph of the deceased was admissible in evidence to prove his facial features, where there are facts in issue or relevant facts, is also beyond controversy."

III

Criminal appeal No. 50 of 1962 dated 3—5—62 Supreme Court—Prabhu Vs. State of Uttar Pradesh—Evidence Act—Sections 25, 26 and 27—Incriminating statement made by accused to a Police officer—extent of admissibility in evidence:—

Statements made to a Police Officer by accused persons are hit by Secs. 25 and 26 of the Indian Evidence Act, and only a portion of such statements are made admissible only to that extent as provided off under Sec. 27 of the same Act. Sec. 27 provides that "when any fact is deposed to as discovered in consequence of information received from a person accused of any offence, in the custody of a Police Officer, so much of such information, whether it amounts to a confession or not, as relates distinctly to the fact thereby discovered may be proved"............... "It is fallacious to treat the 'fact discovered' within the section as equivalent to the object produced; the fact discovered embraces the place from which the object is produced and the knowledge of the accused as to this, and the information given must relate distinctly to this fact. Information as to past user, or the past history, of the object produced is not related to its discovery in the setting in which it is discovered. Information supplied by a person in custody that 'I will produce a knife concealed in the roof of my house' does not lead to the discovery of a knife; knives were discovered many years ago. It leads to the discovery of the fact that a knife is concealed in the house of the informant to his knowledge, and if the knife is proved to have been used in the commission of the offence, the fact discovered is very relevant. But if to the statement the words be added 'with which I stabbed A', these words are inadmissible since they do not relate to the discovery of the knife in the house of the informant."

IV

Sec. 302 read with 34 of the I. P. C.:—

Conviction of one under—if Court acquits 3 of the 4 persons either because it rejects the prosecution evidence or because it gives benefit of doubt to the said accused it cannot hold in the absence of charge as well as

evidence that though the 3 accused are acquitted, some other unidentified persons acted conjointly along with one of the named persons the Court cannot do so as it would be making out a new case for the prosecution.

Supreme Court Criminal Bill 201/61 dated 23—1—63:—

"(3):—A, B, C and D are charged under the said Sections (302 and 34 I.P.C). But the evidence is directed to prove that A, B, C and D along with 3 others have jointly committed the offence" — the Court is certainly entitled to come to the conclusion that one of the named accused is guilty of murder under Section 302 read with Sec. 34 I.P.C. though the other 3 named accused are acquitted if it accepts the evidence that the said accused acted under concert along with persons named or unnamed, other than those acquitted in the commission of the offence." —There must be "some foundation in the evidence that persons other than those named have taken part in the commission of the offence and if there is such a basis, the case will be covered by the third illustration" (the illustration given above).

Section 149 I.P.C:— Conviction of less than 5. Supreme Court Criminal Bill 73 of 1961 dated 29—1—63:—

Where the case of the prosecution and the evidence adduced indicates that a number in excess of 5 participated in the incident and some of them could not be identified, it would be open to the Court to convict less than 5 of the offence being members of the unlawful assembly or convict of the offences committed by the unlawful assembly with the aid of Sec. 149 I. P. C. provided it comes to the conclusion that 5 or more persons participated in the incident.

Sri Mudholkar J of the Supreme Court held "It is competent to a Court to come to a conclusion that there was an unlawful assembly of 5 or more persons, even if less than that number have been convicted by it if (a) the charge states that apart from the persons named several other unidentified persons were also members of the unlawful assembly whose common object was to commit an unlawful act and evidence led to prove this is accepted by the Court; (b) or that the first information report and the evidence show such to be the case even though the charge does not state so; (c) or that though the charge and the prosecution witness named only the acqitted and the convicted persons, there is other evidence which disclosed the existence of named or other persons provided in cases (b) and (c), no prejudice has resulted to the convicted person by reason of the omission to mention the charge that the other unnamed persons had also participated in the offence.

(Extracts from Criminal Law Journals.)

கொலைக்குற்றமும்
நுணுகிய ஆராய்வும்

By

சி. வி. ஜானகிராம்,
(போலீஸ் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர், சேலம்.)

வாழப்பாடி போலீஸ் நிலைய சரகம் சேலம் மாவட்டத்தில் பூசல் நிறைந்த ஒன்று. அச்சரகத்தில் 2—2—63 தேதி பெரிகுதிமடுவு மலையாள கிராமத்தின் மணியக்காரர் இடமிருந்து "27—1—63 தேதி முதல் குரிச்சி கூளையன் என்கிற பொன்ன நாடார் காணவில்லை. ஊரில் பிரசிடெண்டு மாரிமுத்துவும் பண்ணைக்காரன் கொட்டாயில் இருப்பவர்களும் அடித்து போட்டுவிட்டதாக வதந்தி உலாவுகிறது" என்ற ஒரு ரிப்போர்ட் கிடைத்தது, அதை வாழப்பாடி குற்ற எண். 43/63 'நபர் காணவில்லை' என்று பதிவு செய்து விசாரணைக்கு எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்பட்டது.

பலன் :—விசாரணையில் போலீசார் துப்பு துலக்கி குற்றத்தில் சம்மந்தப்பட்டு இருபபதாக சந்தேகித்து குருவக்காடு பஞ்சாயத்து தோட்டி ஆலமுத்துவை 3—2—63 காலை கைது செய்து விசாரிக்க ஒரு ஒப்புதல் வாக்குமூலம கொடுத்தார். அந்த வாக்குமூலத்தில் ஆலமுத்து தானும மற்ற ஒன்பதுபேரும கூளையன் என்பவன் பிணத்தை இரவிலே பண்ணைக்காரன் கொட்டாய் பக்கத்தில் ஆனை மடுவு ஆற்றின் புதையில் இருந்து தூக்கிக் கொண்டுபோய் கேடா வெட்டி கோம்பை என்னும் மலையில் புதைத்து இருப்பதாக தகவல் கொடுத்து அந்த இடத்தை அழைத்துக் கொண்டுபோய் காட்டினார். பிணம் தூக்கிக் கொண்டுபோனதாக சொன்ன இடத்தில் இருந்து பிணம் புதைக்கப்பட்ட இடம் சுமார் 4 மைல் தூரம். காடுகள் செறிந்த மலைப்பாங்கான பிரதேசம் புதைத்து இருந்த இடம். சாதாரணமாக யாரும் நெருங்கமுடியாது. அந்த இடத்தின்மேல் காட்டு எலுமிச்சை செடிகளும் கள்ளியும் வெட்டி போடப்பட்டு இருந்தன. அந்த இடத்திலே ஒருவித துர் நாற்றம வீசியது. 'நபர் காணவில்லை' என்று ஏற்கனவே பதிவு செய்த ரிப்போர்ட்டை ஆலமுத்து கொடுத்த ஒப்புதல் வாக்குமூலத்தின்பேரிலும், இட சோதனையில் வீசின துர் நாற்றம் பேரிலும குற்றம் ஊர்ஜிதப்படுத்தி பிரிவு 302, 201 இ. பி. கோ. குற்றமாக மாற்றி சம்மந்தப்பட்ட அதிகாரிகளுக்கு 'அவசர தாக்கீதுகள்' அனுப்பப்பட்டன. தாசில் தாருக்கு புதை இடத்திலிருந்து தோண்டி எடுக்கவும் டாக்டருக்கு ஸ்தலத்திலேயே பிண பரிசோதனை செய்யும் செய்திகள் அனுப்பப் பட்டன.

எல்லா அதிகாரிகளும் விரைந்து சேர்ந்தனர். துணை கண்காணிப்பாள் கண்காணிப்பாளர் அறிவுரை பெற்று குற்ற விசாரணைக்கு கீழ்க்கண்ட வழிவிதிகள் விதித்தார் :—

(1) தாசில்தார் புதை இடத்தை தோண்ட அனுமதிக்குமுன் இடத்தை காண்பித்த நபரின் வாக்குமூலம் தாசில்தார் எழுதவேண்டும். அதன் மேலேயே தாசில்தார் நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கவேண்டும்.

(2) மருத்துவ அதிகாரி புதை இடத்திலே இருந்து எடுத்த பின் உடனே பிண பரிசோதனை செய்யவேண்டும்.

(3) அதன் பின்னேதான் இறந்த காரணத்தை அறியும் விசாரணை (Inquest Report) நடக்கவேண்டும்.

இந்த வழிவிதிகள் நடைமுறை செயல் ஆக்கப்பட்டன. இந்த வழிவிதிகளே கேசின் தண்டனை முடிவுக்கு ஒரு சிறந்த காரணம். தாசில்தார் பதிவு செய்த வாக்குமூலம் (செக். 176 இ. பி. கோ.) சாட்சியத்தில் செஷன்ஸ் ஜட்ஜ் அவர்கள் முக்யத்வம் கொடுத்து இருக்கிறார்.

குறிப்பு :—சாதாரணமாக இறந்த காரண விசாரணை (Inquest Report) முடிந்தபின்தான் சவ பரிசைஷ டாக்டரால் நடத்தப்படும். ஆனால் இங்கே சவபரிசைஷ நடந்த பிறகுதான் இறந்த காரண விசாரணை (Inquest Report) நடத்தப்பட்டது. இதனால் இறந்த காரணத்தின் தன்மை அறிய டாக்டர் பரிசோதனை இறந்த காரண விசாரணைக்கு ((Inquest Report) ஏதுவாகிறது.

ஆய்ந்த அறிவு பெற்ற கண்காணிப்பாளர் வழி உரைகள் பெற்று துணை கண்காணிப்பாளர் விசாரணையில் பல நுண்ணிய அம்சங்கள் சேகரித்தார். அவைகள் கீழே கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன.

(1) பிணத்தின் அடையாளம் :—நாட்கள் கடந்த பிணத்தை தோண்டி எடுக்கும் இம்மாதிரியான கேசுகளில் பிணத்தை அடையாளம் கண்டுபிடித்து ஊர்ஜிதப்படுத்துவது ஒரு சிக்கலான பிரச்சனை. ஆனால் இந்த கேசில் மிக சுலபமாக இந்த சிக்கல் தீர்க்கப்பட்டு விட்டது. இறந்துபோனவரின் அங்க அடையாளமான இரண்டு சுண்டு விரல்கள், கடைசியாக அணிந்து இருந்த ஆடைகள், மற்றும் இயற்கையான அந்த இடத்தின் சீதோஷ்ண தன்மையில் சாயல் மாறுமை, இவைகளைக் கொண்டு உறவினர்கள் சுலபமாக பிணத்தை அடையாளம் காட்டினார்கள்.

(2) இட பரிசோதனை :— குற்ற ஜாகா பரிசோதனையில் கீழ்க்கண்ட அம்சங்கள் கவனத்தை ஈர்த்தன ;—

(அ) புதை குழியிலே இருந்த பிணமானவனின் ஆடைகளில் ஒன்றான வேஷ்டியில் புதைத்த இடத்திலே காண முடியாத ஒரு வகை 'சேவ ஒட்டி புட்கள்' ஒட்டி இருந்தது.

(ஆ) வேஷ்டியில் இருந்த வண்ணான் குறி : : : : : :

இ) புதை குழியில் மண் வகை.

மேலே (அ) குறிப்பிட்ட ஒருவரை 'சேவ ஒட்டி முட்கள்' கொண்ட முட் செடிகள் பிணம் எந்த இடத்தில் இருந்து தூக்கிக் கொண்டு போனார்களோ அந்த ஆனை மடுவு ஆற்றின் கரைகளிலே (சுமார் 4 மைல்களுக்கு அப்பால்) இருந்தது. பிணம் கிடந்தது என்று சொல்லப்பட்ட அந்த இடத்திலே மேல்கூறிய முட்செடிகள் சிதைந்து, முறிந்து அசைவு ஏற்பட்ட அறிகுறிகள் நன்றாக இருந்தன. ஆதலால் பிணம் அந்த இடத்திலே இருந்துதான் கெடாவெட்டி கோம்பை என்னும் மலைப் பாங்கான காட்டு பிரதேசத்துக்கு 4 மைல் தூரத்துக்கு கொண்டுபோய் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்பது தெரிந்தது. அந்த இடம் பண்ணைக்காரன் கொட்டாயுக்கு சமீபம். ஆதலால் குற்றம் பண்ணைக்காரன் கொட்டாயுக்கு அருகில் நடந்து இருக்கவேண்டும் என்பது ஊர்ஜிதமாயிற்று.

வேஷ்டியில் இருந்த வண்ணான் குறியால் விசாரணையில் 'கூளையன் வேஷ்டி' என்று தெரிந்தது.

பண்ணைக்காரன் கொட்டாயில் கைப்பற்றிய குழிவெட்ட உபயோகப்படுத்திய கட்டவெட்டி என்ற ஆயுதத்தில் ஒட்டி இருந்த மண்ணையும்

புதை குழியில் இருந்து கைப்பற்றிய மண்ணை யும் விஞ்ஞான சோதனைக்கு அனுப்பியதில் இருவகை மண்ணும் ஒத்து இருப்பதாக சான்று கிடைத்தது.

(3) வாய்மொழி சாட்சியங்கள் :—

ஆரம்பத்திலே குறிப்பிட்டது போல் குரு வக்காடு மலையாள பிரதேசத்தைச்சேர்ந்த ஒரு கிராமம். போலீசார் விசாரணை செய்கிறார்கள் என்று தெரிந்தவுடன் பெரும்பாலான ஆட வரும் பெண்டிரும் மலைகளுக்கு ஓடிவிட்டனர். பண்ணைக்காரன் கொட்டாயில் இருந்த ஒரு பெண்ணையும், அவள் மகனான 12 வயது பையனையும் மட்டும் கண்டுபிடித்து விசாரணை யிலேயே விசாரிக்கப்பட்டனர். அவர்கள் வாக்கு மூலத்தில் கொலைக் குற்றத்தில் சம்மந்தப்பட்ட ஐவர் பெயரும் வெளி யாயின. அவர்களே பின் நேர் சாட்சியங் களில் நால்வரில் இருவர் ஆயினர். கண் ணால் கண்ட சாட்சிகளும் (Direct Evidence) குற்றவாளிகள் குற்றத்திற்கு பின் உடனடி யாக எடுத்துச் சொன்ன நபர்களின் சாட்சிக ளும் (Extra judicial Confession) கண்டு பிடித்து விசாரணை செய்யப்பட்டது.

(4) குற்றவாளிகளின் சோதனை :—

கொலைக்குற்றவாளிகளில் ஐவரில் ஒருவனை கைது செய்து அவன் தேக சோதனையில் கழுத்தில் பழைய காய கீரல் கண்டு பிடிக்கப் பட்டு டாக்டர் சோதனைக்கு அனுப்பப்பட் டான். மற்ற நான்கு பேரும் தலைமறைவாக இருந்து கோர்ட்டில் சரண் அடைந்து விட்டனர்.

அதேபோல் கொலைக்குற்றம் மறைக்க உடந் பட்ட குற்றவாளிகளில் இருவருக்கு தோளில் ஏற்பட்ட பழைய காயங்கள் கண்டு பிடிக்கப் பட்டு டாக்டர் பரிசோதனைக்கு அனுப்பப் பட்டது.

இந்த பழைய காயங்கள் குற்றத்தின்போது ஏற்பட்டது என்று சாட்சியமாக ஏற்க உப யோகப்பட்டன.

சாட்சியம் கெட்டி படுத்துதல் :—

சாட்சிகளில் இருவர் தவிர மற்ற எல்லோ ரும் குற்றவாளிகளுக்கு மிகவும் நெருங்கிய உறவினர். ஆதலால் சாட்சியத்தை நிலை நிறுத்த வேண்டிய பொறுப்பு கவனிக்கப்பட் டது. சாட்சிகள் எல்லோருடைய வாக்கு மூலங்களும் இ. பி. கோ. 164 செக்ஷன்படி மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட்டால் பதிவு செய்யப்பட்டன.

குற்றவாளிகள் ஒப்புதல் வாக்குமூலம் (Confessional Statement) கோர்ட்டில் பெற செய்த பிரயாசை பலன் அளிக்கவில்லை. ஆனால் பெருமாள் என்ற பையன் மட்டும் ஒப்புதல் வாக்குமூலம் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் இடம் அளித்தான்.

குற்றப்பத்திரிக்கை:—

சாட்சியங்களில் முன் விரோதத்தால் குருவக்காடு பஞ்சாயத்து பிரசிடெண்டு மாரி முத்தும் மற்ற நால்வரும் சட்ட விரோத மான கூட்டமாக கூடி கூலியனை தடிக ளால் அடித்து கொலை செய்துவிட்டதாகவும், கொலைக்குற்றத்தை மறைக்க பிரசிடெண்டு உடன இருந்த நால்வருடன் இன்னும் ஐந்து பேரை அழைத்து வந்து பிணத்தை தூக்கிக் கொண்டு போய் கெடாவெட்டி கோம்பை என் னும் மலைப்பிரதேசத்தில் மனித சஞ்சாரமே இல்லாத இடத்தில் புதைத்து விட்டு வந்து விட்டதாகவும் ருசுவானது. பெருமாள (வயது 18) என்ற பையனை பிரசிடெண்டு துப்பாக்கி காட்டி பயமுறுத்தி அடித்து அழைத்து வந்து குற்ற செய்கைக்கு ஈடுபடச் செய்த தாக ருசுவானது. துப்பாக்கியால் பிரசி டெண்டு இடித்த கால்காயமும் அவனுக்கு தோளில் ஏற்பட்டதாகத் தெரிந்தது.

துப்பாக்கி கொண்டு பயமுறுத்தி அடித்து அக்குற்றச்செய்கைக்கு ஈடுபாடு செய்யப்பட்ட பெருமாள் என்னும் ஜுவனியலை அரசாங்க வழக்கறிஞர் ஆலோசனையின்பேரில் சாட்சியாக எடுக்கப்பட்டது. பின் ஐவர்பேரில் செக்ஷன் 147, 302, 201 இ. பி. கோ. கீழும் மற்ற நால்வர் பேரில் செக்ஷன் 201 இ. பி. கோ. கீழும் குற்றப்பத்திரிகை தாக்கல் செய்யப்பட்டது.

கோர்ட் விசாரணை :—

சப்-மேஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் கோர்ட்டில் ஆரம்ப விசாரணையில் எல்லா முக்கியமான சாட்சிகளும் விசாரிக்கப்பட்டு சாட்சியங்கள் பதிவு செய்யப்பட்டன. கேசின் சாட்சியங்களை விசாரித்து கனம் சப்-மேஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அவர்கள் பின் தமது ஆழ்ந்த கருத்துக்களுடன் நீதி மன்ற விசாரணைக்கு கேசை அனுப்பினர்.

சேலம் நீதிமன்றத்தில் கற்று அறிந்த கனம் சங்கரநாராயணன், செஷன்ஸ் ஜட்ஜ், அவர்கள் கேசின் விசாரணை எடுத்துக் கொண்டார். இந்த விசாரணையில் உறவினர் அல்லாத 2 சாட்சிகள் தவிர மற்ற உறவினரான சாட்சிகள் எல்லாம் கீழ் கோர்ட்டு வாக்குமூலத்துக்கு மாறி வாக்குமூலம் கொடுத்தனர். ஆதலால் அவர்களை எதிர்தரப்புக்கு மாறி விட்டதாக (Hostile) பாவிக்கப்பட்டது. கீழ் கோர்ட் வாக்குமூலம் குறிக்கப்பட்டது. கொலைக்குற்றத்திற்கு நேர் சாட்சியாக ஒருவரும், கொலைக்குற்றத்தை மறைக்க கொண்டு போய் புதைத்ததற்கு பெருமாள் என்று மேலே சொல்லப்பட்ட ஜுவனியல் பையனும் மட்டும் கீழ்கோர்ட் வாக்கு மூலத்தை உறுதிப் படுத்தினர்.

கற்று அறிந்த கனம் செஷன்ஸ் ஜட்ஜ் அவர்கள் சாட்சியங்களை நுணுகி ஆராய்ந்து குற்றம் கண்டு பஞ்சாயத்து பிரசிடெண்டு மாரிமுத்துவுக்கும் மற்ற நான்கு பேர்களுக்கும செக்ஷன் 148 இ. பி. கோ. கீழ் இரண்டு வருட கடுங்காவலும், செக்ஷன் 302, 149 இ.பி.கோ. கீழ் ஆயுள் தண்டனையும், கொலைக் குற்றத்தை மறைத்த குற்றத்திற்காக மற்ற நான்கு பேர்களுக்கு செக்ஷன் 201, 34 இ. பி. கோ. கீழ் மூன்று வருட கடினக்காவலும் விதித்தார்.

இந்த கேசில் பயமுறுத்தி குற்றத்திற்கு ஈடுபடச் செய்த ஜுவனியல் குற்றவாளியாகிய பெருமாளை சாட்சியாக எடுத்த புதிய சாதனை கொலைக்குற்றத்தின் மறைக்க கொண்டுபோய் புதைத்த குற்றத்திற்கு உரிய குற்றவாளிகள் தண்டனை மீளாதபடி செய்தது. உள்ளங்கை நெல்லிக்கனிபோல் குற்றத்தை எடுத்துக் காட்டி கனம் கற்று அறிந்த நீதிபதி அவர்கள் குற்றத்தையும் சாட்சியங்களையும் சீர்தூக்கி பார்த்து குற்றவாளிகளுக்கு உரிய தண்டனை அளித்தது மிகவும் போற்றத்தக்கது.

இந்திய திபெத் எல்லையில் நாட்டைக்காக்கும் பணியில் உயிர் நீத்த வீரர்களுக்கு நாடெங்கும் ஞாபகச் சின்னம்.

By

போலீஸ் சேவுகர் 167, **இராமதாஸ்,**
(தனி ஆயுத போலீஸ் படை, ஆவடி.)

நீதிக்கும் நேர்மைக்கும் பெயர் பெற்ற சென்னை மாநிலப் போலீஸ் படையில் பணியாற்றும் பாக்கியம் பெற்றவன் நான். என் பெயர் ராமதாஸ். சென்னைக்கு அருகில் உள்ள ஆவடியில் தனி ஆயுதப் போலீஸ் படை (S. A. P.)யில் பணியாற்றும் என் நம்பர் போ. சே. 167.

காஷ்மீரத்துக்கு அப்பால் இந்தியா-திபேத் எல்லையில் இருப்பது 'ஹாட்ஸ்பிரிங்' என்ற இடம் 1959ம் ஆண்டில் அக்டோபர் மாதத்தில் நாட்டைக் காக்கும் நற்பணியில் உயிர் நீத்த போலீஸ் காவலாளர்கள் பதின்மரின் நினைவுச் சின்னம் அங்கே இருக்கிறது. அங்கே போய்வர எங்கள் மாநிலப் போலீஸ் சார்பில் ஒருவரைத் தேர்ந்தெடுக்க ஒரு பேட்டி வைக்கப்பட்டது. கருணை மிக்க எங்கள் உதவி தளவாய் அதற்கு என்னை அனுப்பிவைத்தார். பேட்டிக்கு வந்த பலரில் எங்கள் போலீஸ்துறைத் தலைவர் என்னைத் தேர்ந்தெடுத்தார். இது நான் சற்றும் எதிர்பாராத ஒன்று. பண வசதி படைத்தவர்கள்கூட அம்மாதிரி இடங்களுக்குப் போய்வர இயலாது. என்போன்ற ஏழையொருவன் போய்வருவதென்றால் அதை எண்ணிக்கூட பார்க்க முடியாதே! அப்படிப்பட்ட எனக்கு இதுபோன்ற ஒரு வாய்ப்பு கிடைத்தது என்றால், அதனால் நான் அடைந்த மகிழ்ச்சியை எப்படிச் சொல்வேன். அதிலும் என்போன்ற பல சேவகர்கள் இருக்க என்னைத் தேர்ந்தெடுத்தது எனக்கு அளவரிய பெருமையைத் தந்தது. இது எனக்குக் கிடைத்த பெருமை மட்டுமல்ல, நான் பணிபுரியும் தனி ஆயுதப்போலீஸ் படை முழுவதிற்குமே கிடைத்த பெருமைதான் என்று நான் கருதுகிறேன். சென்னைக்கு அருகில் உள்ள ஆவடி எங்கே? காஷ்மீரத்துக்கு அப்பால் உள்ள "ஹாட்ஸ்பிரிங்" எங்கே? வானளாவும் பனிவரைத் தொடர்களிடையே உலவிவரும் பேறு எனக்குக் கிடைத்து விட்டது. தாய்நாட்டைக் காக்கத் தங்களுயிர் ஈந்த போலீஸ் காவலாளர்கள பதின்மரின் நினைவுச் சின்னத்தைக் காணப்போகிறோம் என்று எண்ண எண்ண என் மகிழ்ச்சி பெருகிற்று. ஆகவே பயணம் துவங்கும் நன்னாளை வெகு ஆவலுடன் எதிர்பார்த்து அதற்குத் தேவையானவற்றைத் தயாரிக்கத் தொடங்கினேன்.

1963ம் ஆண்டு ஆகஸ்டு மாதம் 19-ம் தேதி சென்னையிலிருந்து டில்லிக்கு ரயிலில் பிரயாணமானேன். எங்கள் கம்பெனி அதிகாரியும் இன்னும் சிலரும் ரயில் நிலையம் வந்திருந்து என்னை வழியனுப்பிவைத்தார்கள். என்னுடைய வழிச் செலவுக்காக அரசாங்கம் ரூ. 750/- அளித்துதவியது. நான் போகும் இடத்திற்கு ஏற்ற உடைகள், சாதனங்கள் தேவையல்லவா? அதற்காக அரசாங்கத்தாரே தனி உடைகளைத் தந்து உதவினர். "பாலக் கிளாவா" என்ற 2 கம்பளி முகமூடிகள், 1 பனிக்கண்ணாடி, 2 கம்பளி பனியன்கள், நீண்ட கையுடைய கம்பளி பனியன் 1, கம்பளி ஷர்ட் 1, தோல் கையுறைகள் 2, 1 கம்பளி அண்டர்வேர், கம்பளி முழுக்கால்சட்டை 1,

கம்பளி பாத மேல் உறை 2, பூட்ஸ்கள் ஒரு ஜதை, (Sleeping Bag) மெத்தை, 6 கம்பளி விரிப்புகள்—இவ்வளவும் அப்பிரயாணத்திற்கு இன்றியமையாத உடைகள். அவற்றையெல்லாம் மூட்டை கட்டிக்கொண்டேன். அந்த மூட்டை பாரமானதாக இருந்தாலும், நான் மேற்கொண்ட பிரயாணத்தின் நோக்கத்தை நினைக்கையில் அது ஒரு பாரமாகவே தோன்றவில்லை! நான் 21—8—63 தேதி டில்லி போய்ச்சேர்ந்தேன். அங்கு ரயில் நிலயத்தில் சென்னை போலீஸ் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர் திரு நாராயணன் அவர்கள் என்னை வரவேற்றார்கள். எனக்கும் ஒரு புது தெம்பு பிறந்தது. காஷ்மீர் போவதற்கு வேண்டிய இடத்தை எனக்கு 'ரிசர்வ்' செய்து கொடுத்துதவினார் அவர். மறுநாள் 22—8—63 தேதி பகல் பதினோறு மணிக்கு டில்லியிலிருந்து காஷ்மீரின் தலைநகரான ஸ்ரீநகருக்கு (Srinagar) ஆகாய விமானம்மூலம் பயணமானேன். நான் என் வாழ்க்கையில் ஆகாய விமானப் பயணம் செய்வேன் என்று நினைத்துகூடப் பார்த்ததில்லை. சாதாரண ஒரு போலீஸ் சேவகனுக்கு இம்மாதிரி ஒரு பாக்கியம் கிடைக்கும் என்று யார்தான் எண்ணியிருப்பார்கள்! அன்று பிற்பகல் 2 மணிக்கு ஸ்ரீநகர் போய்ச்சேர்ந்தேன். போலீஸ் துறை உதவித் தலைவர் (A. I. G.) ஸ்ரீ கஜூரியா என்பவரை அங்கே நான் சந்தித்தேன். இயற்கையின் வனப்பிலே புரளும் காஷ்மீரின் பள்ளத்தாக்கு! நீரிலேயே மிதந்து கொண்டிக்கும் "போட் ஹவுஸ்" என்ற படகுகளைக் கண்டேன். அவைகளிலும் மக்கள் குடியிருக்கின்றனர். அப்பிரதேசத்தில் மீனும், பழங்களும் வெகு மலிவான விலையில் கிடைக்கின்றன. அங்குள்ள "நேரு பூங்கா" பார்க்கவேணடிய இடங்களில் ஒன்றுதும்.

25—8—1963ந் தேதி ஸ்ரீநகரிலிருந்து லே (LEH) என்ற இடத்திற்குப் பிரயாணமானேன். மூன்றுவது பட்டாலியன் கமாண்டன்ட் கேப்டன் ஸ்ரீ அப்துல் அஸீஸ் என்பவர் 'லே' போவதற்கு வேண்டிய வாகன வசதியைச் செய்துகொடுத்தார். அங்கெல்லாம் பஸ்கள் சிறிய உருவிலே உள்ளன. டிரைவரையும் சேர்த்து அந்தப் பஸ்களில் 10 பேர்கள்தான் பிரயாணம் செய்ய முடியும். அங்கிருந்து 'லே' (LEH) என்னுமிடம் சுமார் 300 மைல் தொலைவில் உள்ளது. அங்கே போய்ச்சேர மூன்று நாட்களாயின. பகலெல்லாம் பஸ்ஸில் பிரயாணம் செய்வோம். மாலை 5 மணியானதும் பிரயாணம் நிறுத்தப்படும். இவ்வாறுக 27—8—63 தேதி "லே"யை அடைந்தேன். அங்கே என்னைப்போலவே மற்ற மாநிலப் போலீஸிலிருந்து வந்திருந்த பிரதிநிதிகள் காத்திருந்தனர். அவர்களுடன் நானும் சேர்ந்து கொண்டேன். நாங்கள் எல்லோரும் "ஹாட்ஸ்பிரிங்" என்ற இடத்திற்கு ஒன்றுகப் புறப்பட ஆயத்தம் செய்தோம். எங்கள் கூட்டத்தில் இருந்தவர்கள் விவரம் வருவாறு:—

1. திரு. மஹேந்திர சிங், பஞ்சாப்
2. ,, பாலராஜநந்தா, டில்லி
3. ,, சின்ஹா, V. S., மைசூர்
4. ,, M. K. சிங், மணிப்பூர்
5. ,, S. B. பாணி, ஒரிஸ்ஸா
6. ,, S. R. N. ராணு (சுபேதார்) மத்தியப்பிரதேசம்
7. ,, தேஜ்பால் சிங் (சி. ஐ. டி.) உத்திரப்பிரதேசம்
8. ,, அப்துல் அஜீஸ் (Hav) ஜம்மு காஷ்மீர்
9. ,, ராம ரெட்டி, ஆந்திரா ஸ்பெஷல் போலீஸ்
10. ,, A. C. தாஸ் (சென்டிரல் லடாக் ரிசர்வ் போலீஸ்)

செப்டம்பர் 1ந் தேதி எங்கள் கோஷ்டி "ஹாட்ஸ்பிரிங்" பிரயாணத்தைத் துவங்கிற்று. பெட்டிகளும், மூட்டைமுடிச்சுகளும், அவைகளுக்கென தயார் செய்யப்பட்ட குதிரைகளில் ஏற்றப்பட்டன. நாங்களெல்லோரும் படுக்கைகளை மட்டும் எடுத்துக்கொண்டு ஒரு "ஸிவில்" லாரியில் ஏறிக்கொண்டு பிரயாணத்தை ஆரம்பித்தோம். எங்களது சாமான்கள் ஏற்றப்பட்ட

குதிரைகளும் எங்களைப் பின்தொடர்ந்தன. அங்கே நாங்கள் பிரயாணம் செய்த சாலை "சென்னை மாநில இன்ஜினீரிங் குரூப்"பாரால் போடப்பட்டது என்பது குறிப்பிடத்தக்கது. அன்றிரவு 'சக்தி' என்ற இடத்தை அடைந்தோம். அவ்விடத்தில் முகாம் போட்டிருந்த இன்ஜினீயரிங் குரூப்பைச்சேர்ந்த மேஜர் திரு. கேசவன் மலர்ந்த முகத்தோடு எங்களை வரவேற்று உணவும், தங்க இடமும் தந்துதவினர்.

மறுநாள் (2—9—63) ஓர் இராணுவ லாரியில் ஏறிக்கொண்டோம். அன்று மாலை 5 மணிக்கு 'துர்பக்' என்ற இடத்தில் இராணுவ முகாமை அடைந்தோம். அந்த இடம் 17,350 அடி உயரத்தில் உள்ளது. "ஷேங்கலா டாப்" என்று அழைக்கப்படுகிற அதுதான் உலகிலேயே அதி உயரமான இடத்திற்கு பஸ்ஸில் பிரயாணம் செய்யக்கூடிய ஒரே இடம் என்று கருதப்படுகிறது. 'துர்பக்' ராணுவ முகாமிற்கு 'ஹெலிகாப்டர்கள்' அடிக்கடி வருகின்றன, ராணுவ வீரர்களுக்குத் தேவையான உணவு, பொருள்கள் எல்லாம் ஹெலிகாப்டர்கள் மூலமாகமே மேலிருந்து போடப்படுகின்றன.

நாங்கள் சென்ற தூரத்தை மைல்கணக்கில் சொல்வதைவிட நாட்கள் கணக்கில் சொனனல் எளிதில் புரியும். அப்படிச் சொல்வதுதான் அங்கே நடைமுறையிலுள்ளது. "துர்பக்"கில் நான்கு நாட்கள் தங்கிவிட்டு பிறகு 6—9—63ந் தேதி மீண்டும் பயணத்தைத் தொடர்ந்தோம். சுமார் 30 மைல் தூரம் ஒற்றையடி மலைப்பாதையில் சுற்றிச்சுற்றி சென்ரும். அன்றிரவு 'மொப்லி' என்ற மலையைக் குடைந்து செய்யப்பட்ட குகை ஒன்றில் தங்கினேம். மறுநாள் 7—9—63ந் தேதி காலையில் குதிரைமேல் ஏறிக்கொண்டு அவ்விடத்தைவிட்டுப் புறப்பட்டு "லுங்கர்" என்ற மலையை அடைந்து தங்கினேம். பின்னர் "பொப்ராங்" என்ற இடத்திற்குப் போய்ச் சேர்ந்தோம் 8—9—63ந் தேதியன்று. இந்தியா—திபெத்திய எல்லைப் போலீஸாரின் முகாம் அது. செங்குத்தான ஒரு மலையின் அடிவாரததில் அது உளளது. அங்கு தங்கிவிட்டு 10—9—63ந் தேதி மீண்டும் பிரயாணத்தைத் தொடர்ந்தோம். நாங்கள் போய்ச் சேரவேண்டிய அடுத்த இடம் "ஷேக்சால்" என்ற இராணுவ முகாம் ஆகும். அங்கு போகும் வழியில் "சென்டிரல் ரிசர்வ்" போலீஸ் படையைச்சேர்ந்த நாயக் "பலதேவ் சிங்" என்ற வீரரின் சமாதியுள்ளது. அதற்கு அஞ்சலி செலுத்தினேம். நாங்கள் வருகிரேம் என்ற செய்தியை முன்னதாகவே அறிந்துகொண்டிருந்தார்போலும், 'ஷேக சால்' ராணுவ முகாம் அதிகாரி சுபேதார் ஸ்ரீ R. K. வர்மா என்பவர். அவர் தன்னுடைய கோஷ்டியாருடன் ராணுவ முகாமிற்கு இப்பால மூன்று மைல் தூரத்தில் வந்து காத்திருந்து எங்களை எதிர்கொண்டு வரவேற்று உபசரித்தார். அவர்கள் எங்களுக்கு சுவையான தேநீரும் பக்கோடாவும் கொடுத்தார்கள். அவர்களுடைய பண்பையும், விருந்தோம்பலையும் என்றுமே நான மறக்கமுடியாது. மதம், மொழி, பிராந்தியம் என்ற பேத உணர்ச்சி மறந்து நாம எல்லோருமே பாரதத் தாயின புதல்வர்கள் என்ற பண்புணர்ச்சி நம்மையறியாமலேயே ஏற்பட்டுவிடுகிறது அம் மாதிரி இடங்களில! வெகு உற்சாகமாகவும், விருப்பத்தோடும் அவர்கள் எங்களை "ஷேக் சால" எனற இராணுவ முகாமிற்கு அழைத்துச் சென்றனர். அம்முகாமில் உள்ள வீரர்கள யாவரும் உற்சாகத்துடனே காணப்பட்டனர். அன்று அங்கே தங்கியிருந்து அவர்களுடன் இன்பமாகப் பொழுதைக் கழித்தோம். எங்களுக்கு நல்ல உணவையும், இருப்பிடத்தையும அவர்கள் வழங்கினர். 11—9—63ந் தேதி மீண்டும் பிரயாணத்தைத் தொடங்கினேம். அன்று மாலை 6 மணிக்கு "ஹாட்ஸ்பிரிங்" போய்ச சேர்ந்தோம்.

இரண்டு பனிமலைகள் சேரும் இடத்தில் ஓர் கணவாய். அங்கேயுள்ளது "ஹாட்ஸ்பிரிங்". அவ்விடத்தில் ஓர் பக்கத்தில் 'வென்னீர் வீழ்ச்சி' மற்ருெரு இடத்தில் சுமார் பத்து கஜம் தூரத்தில் மிகக் குளிர்ந்த நீர்! சூரியன உதயமாகும் காட்சி கண்கொளளாக் காட்சி! என்னே இயற்கையின எழில்! காணக் காணத் தெவிட்டாத விருந்து

கண்களுக்கு! 'மக்மோகன் எல்லைக் கோட்டிலிருந்து 20 கிலோ மீட்டர் தெற்கேயுள்ளது 'ஹாட்ஸ்பிரிங்'. உயரமான அவ்விடத்தில் காற்றின் அழுத்தம் மிகுமிகக் குறைவு. ஆகையால் மனிதன் மூச்சுவிடக்கூட முடியாது. அக்காரணம் பற்றியே நாங்கள் 'பிராணவாயு'க் குழாய்களை உபயோகிக்கவேண்டியது அவசியமாயிற்று. 'ஹாட்ஸ்பிரிங்'கில் பொருத்தப்பட்டுள்ள தூரதிருஷ்டிக் கண்ணாடி மூலமாக எல்லைக்கு அப்பாலும் வெகு தூரம் நாங்கள் இயற்கைக் காட்சிகளைக் காண முடிந்தது. தூரதிருஷ்டிக் கண்ணாடியின் மூலமாகப் பார்க்கையில் எல்லைக்கு அப்பால் சீனத்துருப்புகள் நடமாடுவதைக் காண முடிந்தது.

மறுநாள் 12—9—63ந் தேதி ஓர் புனிதமான நாள். ஏனெனில் எங்கள் பிரயாணத்தின் நோக்கம் நிறைவேறும் நன்னாள் அது. அன்று காலையில் காலைக்கடன்களை வெகு சுறுசுறுப்பாக முடித்துக்கொண்டோம். தாய்நாட்டைக் காக்கத் தங்கள் இன்னுயிரீந்த உத்தமர்கள் பதின்மரின் வீர வரலாறு எங்கள் மனக்கண்முன் தோன்றிற்று. அவர்களின் நினைவுக்காக எழுப்பப்பட்டிருந்த 'நினைவுச் சின்ன'த்தைக் கண்டதும் எங்கள் மெய் சிலிர்த்தது. எங்களுக்கு ஏற்பட்ட உணர்ச்சியை நாங்கள் எப்படி விவரிக்கமுடியும்! கண்களில் நீர்த்திரை லேசாகப் படர்ந்தது. கடமைக்காக உயிர்நீத்த காவலாளர்கள் பதின்மரின் நினைவை மனத்தில் இருத்திக்கொண்டு அந்த நினைவுச் சின்னத்தின்மேல் மலர்மாலைகளைச் சாத்தி மௌனமாக அஞ்சலி செய்தோம். எங்கள் வாழ்க்கையில் எண்ணிக்கூடப் பார்த்திருக்கமுடியாத பெரும்பேறு எய்தியதுபோன்று பூரிப்பு ஏற்பட்டது எங்களுக்கு. "தாய்நாட்டைக் காக்கும் திருப்பணியில் உயிர்நீத்த உத்தமர்களே! உங்களுக்கு நினைவுச் சின்னம் ஹாட்ஸ்பிரிங்கில் மட்டுமில்லை. பாரதத்தாயின் நாற்பது கோடி மக்களின் உள்ளங்கள் எல்லாமே உங்களுக்கு நினைவுச் சின்னங்கள்தான்! உங்கள் சகோதர காவலாளர்கள் நாங்கள். நாங்கள் உங்கள் வீர வாழ்க்கையை நினைவில் இறுத்திக்கொள்வோமாக! நாட்டைக் காக்கும் பணியில் உங்களைப் போலவே கடமையைச் செய்வதில் நாங்கள் சளைக்கமாட்டோம். கன்னியாகுமரியில் இருந்தாலும், காஷ்மீரிலிருந்தாலும் காவலாளர்கள் எல்லோருமே ஓர் இனம், ஓர் குடும்பம்" என்றிவ்வாறெல்லாம் மனத்தில் நான் நினைத்துக் கொண்டேன். நாங்கள் எடுத்துக்கொண்ட பணி இனிது முடிந்தது. பிறகு 12—9—63ந் தேதி அவ்விடத்திலிருந்து பிரிய மனமின்றி பிரிந்து மீண்டும் சென்ற வழியிலேயே திரும்பினேம். கடமை அழைக்கிறதே! திரும்பாமலிருக்க முடியுமா? என்னுடன் வந்தவர்கள் எல்லோரும் அவரவர்களுடைய ஊருக்குத் திரும்பினர். நானும் 1—10—63ந் தேதி சென்னை வந்து சேர்ந்தேன்.

உண்மையிலேயே இந்தப் பயணம் எனக்கு ஓர் புத்துணர்ச்சியை அளித்துள்ளது. நினைத்திருக்கமுடியாத ஒரு பெரும்பேறு எனக்குக் கிட்டியது என்று எண்ணிப் பெருமைப்பட்டால் அது தவறல்லவே! இப்படிப்பட்ட ஒரு பாக்கியத்தை எனக்கு அளித்த நமது அரசாங்கத்திற்கும், நமது போலீஸ் துறைத் தலைவர், துணைத் தலைவர், எங்கள் உதவித் தளவாய் முதலியவர்களுக்கும் நான் என்றென்றும் கடமைப்பட்டவனாவேன்.

Crime Statement for the Quarter Ending 30—9—1963

Serial No. (1)	Name of District (2)	Area in sq. miles (3)	Population (4)	Total number of crimes (5)	Offences relating to coins (6)	Offences relating to currency and bank notes (7)	Murder (8)	Dacoity (9)	Robbery (10)	H. Bs. (11)	Thefts (ordinary and cattle) (12)	Kidnapping (13)
1	North Arcot	4,654	31,41,983	1424	—	—	32	3	5	538	846	—
2	South Arcot	4,204	21,76,767	1,283	—	—	17	2	3	281	663	[illegible]
3	Chingleput	3,353.31	18,53,619	2,695	—	—	27	—	8	379	864	[illegible]
4	Coimbatore	6,024	35,41,401	2,664	—	—	69	1	6	437	1,296	[illegible]
5	Kanyakumari	646	9,97,000	339	—	—	1	—	—	45	62	—
6	Madras City	49.4	17,28,892	1,445	1	2	3	—	2	47	666	[illegible]
7	Madurai North	3,099,24	16,22,989	1,329	—	—	14	—	—	102	239	[illegible]
8	Madurai Urban	1,769,76	12,68,828	3,769	—	—	7	—	8	72	491	[illegible]
9	Nilgiris	10,98,14	2,79,359	187	—	—	2	—	—	40	39	—
10	Ramanathapuram	4,849	20,80,519	4,282	—	—	2	—	3	75	205	[illegible]
11	Salem	6,894,8	33,71,769	1,484	—	—	45	2	17	433	1,030	[illegible]
12	Thanjavur	3,74,201	28,82,670	582	—	—	11	—	1	165	405	—
13	Tiruchirappalli	5,514	31,69,599	1,180	—	—	14	1	3	157	369	[illegible]
14	Tirunelveli	4,337	24,45,967	771	—	—	20	—	—	—	311	[illegible]
15	Govt. Rly. Police, Tiruchirappalli.	2,451.5	—	252	—	—	—	—	—	—	177	—